



The managers of the Pavilion Cinema say that they do not, repeat do not, have bedbugs.

BEDBUG-FREE ZONE

Pavilion Cinema manager tries to exterminate persistent rumors

By Andy Campbell
The Brooklyn Paper

The Park Slope Pavilion movie theater finally hit back to exterminate years of bed-bug rumors, sending out an extraordinary letter in hopes of reassuring parents and film lovers that it is not a mite-filled multiplex.

A manager at the theater —

back as late 2008, “Let us begin by sincerely apologizing for the current state of the Pavilion Theater — specifically for the broken seats and the heating problems,” wrote General Manager Ross Brunetti. “Regarding the bedbug rumors — there is no evidence that we have bed-



bugs.... If bedbugs were ever to be discovered in the theater, we would not sit idly by. The theater would temporarily close while we rectify the situation.”

It’s unclear who would need to “discover” the bedbugs before managers would spring into action, because the alleged sightings published online are seemingly endless.

Six people have posted complaints on the Bedbug Registry, a website for complaints and sightings that may or may not be accurate, since August, 2008. Dozens of sightings have been posted on the Park Slope Parents listserve since 2009. And dozens more supposed victims have complained on the message board of Brook-

See **BUGS** on page 6

MARTY ROLLS ON

Beep’s State of the Borough tackles bikes, more

By Alex Rush
The Brooklyn Paper

Borough President Markowitz knows how to ride a bike — and he obviously knows how to ride a city agency.

The Beep, who famously opposed the Prospect Park West bike lane on the grounds that it is anti-car, rode a tri-cycle into his annual State of the Borough address last night at Sunset Park HS.

As you can see, I’ve taken advantage of the Department of Transportation’s newest bike lane,” Markowitz joked about his government foe at the start of a 90-minute speech to a full-house of lawmakers, community leaders and his buddies. “Of course, I can tell it’s still under construction, because the DOT hasn’t yet removed all the seats in the auditorium to make room for it!”

But aside from his brief mention of the city’s supposed pro-cyclist, anti-motorist policies, Markowitz steered clear of polarizing statements. Instead, he spoke as if he were a proud parent at Brooklyn’s bar mitzvah, raving about the borough’s recent developments.



Marty Markowitz makes his entrance.

Markowitz touted gains like the revitalization of Downtown, the Coney Island amusement district and Brooklyn Bridge Park.

As usual, he promised to promote the borough as a major tourist destination and focus on the problem that’s on everyone’s minds: the economy. Brooklyn actually added more than 14,000 jobs last year, according to Crain’s New York Business, but Markowitz said that’s not

But what about the pole dancer?

By Alex Rush
The Brooklyn Paper

The pole dancing climax to Borough President Markowitz’s State of the Borough address didn’t go over so well — and some critics are saying that Markowitz’s objectification of women can no longer be ignored.

“I just didn’t think it was necessary,” said Chinita Pointer, who was honored at the Feb. 4 speech for running the nonprofit music program, the Noel Pointer See **POLE** on page 5



Markowitz’s invitation to pole dancer Stephanie Mancuso raised more than just heart rates.

enough. “We need more jobs, jobs, jobs right here, right now,” he proclaimed. “Jobs should be ‘job one.’”

But aside from his frank economic outlook, the state of

the borough generally stayed on the bright side. Markowitz glossed over the stuff that bums out Brooklynites, like public transportation cuts, public school closures and

See **MARTY** on page 5



Boerum Hill residents Howard Kolins and Sarah Wikenczy are upset at how fast cars travel through the intersection of Bond and Pacific streets in Boerum Hill.

Slow them down

Activists urge speed limit trim in Boerum Hill

By Gary Buiso and Michelle Manetti
The Brooklyn Paper

Boerum Hill residents are pushing the city to slam the brakes on reckless drivers by cutting the speed limit to 20 miles per hour in their exclusive brownstone enclave.

The Department of Transportation is considering including the neighborhood in a preliminary traffic-calming program in hopes of deterring cars and trucks from using the area as a shortcut cut to and from the East River bridges.

“We need to encourage people to go slower,” said Howard Kolins, president of the Boerum Hill Association, which along with Councilman Steve Levin (D-Brooklyn Heights), formed a traffic task force to help the issue gain traction.

The zone — which would shave

See **SLOW** on page 6

Ladies who lunch — on dog food!

Hook duo puts its mouth where its money is

By Gary Buiso
The Brooklyn Paper

Two Red Hook women are so convinced their dog food is the cat’s meow that they’ll dine on the stuff for an entire month.

Evermore Pet Food owners Hanna Mandelbaum, 30, and Alison Wiener, 38, are vowing to eat the chicken- and beef-filled varieties at least once a day to prove that what’s good for the greyhound is good enough for them.

“A lot of pet foods claim to be human grade, but none of those companies put their mouth where their money is,” said Mandelbaum. “Just taking a bite on camera doesn’t cut it.”

The pair plans to document ev-

BUT HOW DOES IT TASTE?
OUR COLUMNIST EATS DOG FOOD, PAGE 6

ery doggone meal on their website, www.evermorepetfood.com.

Canines and humans have different nutritional requirements, with the former species requiring more protein, she noted.

“We couldn’t eat this non-stop,” Wiener conceded.

The food, which looks like a cross between chili and pâté, is organic, and free of antibiotics and hormones. The chicken and cows are raised on the same ranches where gourmet specialty markets source their meat, the

pair said.

Wiener, a chef by training, said when the women aren’t eating dog food, they’ll be eating select ingredients of the food, including kale, yams, blueberries, and dandelion greens.

The food comes frozen, costs between \$12 and \$14, and is available in over 30 stores citywide.

Like revenge, it can be eaten hot or cold.

“It really doesn’t taste that bad,” Wiener said.

The stunt is certainly not new.



Hanna Mandelbaum (left) and Alison Wiener make dog food that’s good enough for humans to eat (which makes their best friend Connor not too happy).

The president of Kal Kan Pet Food was said to eat a can of his dog food at shareholders’ meetings; it is not clear if this bolstered or

sank investor confidence. And it appears that a generation of dog food eaters are posting their cul-

See **DOGS** on page 6

CLONES ♥ CHRISTINA

Offer diva second chance

By Laura Gottesdiener
for The Brooklyn Paper

The Brooklyn Cyclones are offering disgraced singer Christina Aguilera the ultimate chance at redemption — inviting the fabled Genie in a Bottle to reprise the National Anthem, this time with the right lyrics, at a game this summer.

Aguilera famously flubbed our nation’s best-loved (and worst-performed) song at the Super Bowl on Sunday, singing, “What so proudly we watched at the twilight’s last gleaming” instead of the actual lyrics, “O’er the ramparts we watch’d, we so gallantly streaming.”

See **CLONES** on page 5



Christina Aguilera at the Super Bowl.

These buses are on track

By Natalie O'Neill
The Brooklyn Paper

Slowest bus in the borough? There’s an app for that.

Phone-wielding B63 strap-hangers can now track their snail-like bus along its Bay Ridge-to-Brooklyn Heights route, thanks to a satellite-guided system unveiled on Wednesday by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

And unlike the B63, the system works flawlessly.

When The Brooklyn Paper used the system, called Bustime, in front of a stop on Fifth Avenue and Dean Street, our cellphone told us exactly where the bus was, allowing commuters to know if they had time to grab a cup of coffee or whether they should pack it in and walk.

“It makes sense,” said Lawrence Beauvais, a tourist from See **BUS** on page 5



Transit reporter Natalie O’Neill got to work on time (for once) thanks to the MTA’s new bus schedule application for the iPhone.

Coney Island in Colorado

Frankly speaking, this hot dog diner should be in Brooklyn

By Gary Buiso
The Brooklyn Paper

The Coney Island Boardwalk diner — the one in Colorado, we mean — could finally move to the place where it truly belongs.

The 1950s-style roadside attraction, and pride of the small Rocky Mountain town of Bailey, is up for sale for a cool \$499,000, and the owner says that Coney Island — the one in Brooklyn, we mean — is the perfect fit for his 43-foot, 18-ton wiener-shaped eatery.



HOT DOG! The Coney Island Boardwalk diner is out of place in Bailey, Colorado. But it’s for sale — and we can think of at least one place it should relocate.

“I would love to see it in Coney Island,” said Ron Agner, who said he was compelled to sell after run-ins with local authorities. “I can’t see why Colorado deserves it any more.”

Agner said he’s already received two offers — but would wait to hear from interested parties Back East before settling on a deal.

“The first person with cash in their hand gets it,” he said.

Coney legends are championing at the bit.

See **CONEY** on page 6

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LETTERS

Even Kuntzman's dad takes issue with him

To the editor,

I just read your editorial about Assemblyman Vito Lopez ("Vito's latest scandal," Dec. 23). I didn't know the editor personally, I would think he was a flaming member of the Tea Party.

Maybe he has changed his politics and has seen the light and gone conservative. I can only hope.

Ron Kuntzman,
Rye Brook, N.Y.
The writer is the editor's father.

Review review

To the editor,

In your year-end roundup, I was amused to read a fanciful tale involving me on the final night of Freddy's Bar and Backroom ("2010: The Year in Review," Dec. 30).

I was less amused to recognize that your newspaper has not covered some important Atlantic Yards news, notably Forest City Ratner's effort to raise \$249 million from immigrant investors seeking green cards.

Brooklynites should care that Borough President Markowitz, in a video message taped for potential investors in China, claimed that "Brooklyn's 1,000 percent behind Atlantic Yards." Brooklynites should care that tax money already committed to city and state agencies is apparently being used to help calculate the jobs "created" by such investors. Brooklynites should care that the spirit, if not the letter, of a federal immigration program is being violated.

Norman Oder, Park Slope

Wheel shame
To the editor,
It's a shame that Leslie Lewis, president of the 84th Precinct Community Council, resorted to lying about bikes in his anti-bike screed ("Crackdown will save lives," on-line). Crackdown will save lives, on-

line op-ed, Jan. 14).

He claimed, "About 90 percent of the bicyclists killed in this city died, in part, because they were not following the rules of the road. They were either on roads without bike lanes."

In reality, it is not — and has never been — against the law to ride on a street without a bike lane. Any implication to the contrary is nonsensical. It would make it illegal to ride a bike for nearly any trip around the city, because our bike lane grid is hardly comprehensive.

The study that Lewis seems to be citing, the Department of Health's "Bicyclist Fatalities and Serious Injuries in New York City, 1996-2005," finds nothing of the sort.

According to that study, only 42 percent of bicycle fatalities involving wrongdoing only by the bicyclist involved. To more than double that statistic is completely irresponsible on Lewis's part.

The real safety problem is not with bikes, but with motor vehicles which kill hundreds of times more city residents than do bicyclists.

Mike Epstein, Fort Greene

Send a letter
By e-mail:
newsroom@cnjlocal.com

By mail: Letters, The Brooklyn Paper, One Metrotech Center, Suite 1001, Brooklyn, NY 11201.

All letters must be signed and include the writer's home address and phone number (only the writer's name and neighborhood published with the letter). Letters may be edited and will not be returned. The earlier in the week you send your letter, the better.

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OUR OPINION

Save Pierre!

Meet Pierre, a new Canada goose in Prospect Park. Just don't get too attached to him — he'll likely be dead this summer.

That's right — despite months of outrage over the federal government's massacre of more than 250 Canada geese in Prospect Park last summer, authorities are already sharpening their figurative knives for another round of bloodletting in the name of aviation security.

Yet never has this killing been justified by the people running the slaughterhouse. First, authorities said they needed a five-mile bird-free ring around the city airports. Then, our investigation revealed that it was the Bloomberg Administration that pushed for a seven-mile ring to avoid future payouts in airplane crash lawsuits.

When we revealed that the lake in Prospect Park is actually outside the seven-mile limit, authorities shrugged. They said they hoped the government's culling of bird populations — using dogs and destroying just-laid eggs, for example — would obviate the need for another mass execution of defenseless animals, who were rounded up in huge movable pens under cover of darkness during the brief period when they shed their flying feathers and cannot escape from predators like man.

Nature always finds a way. Today, the population of Canada geese in the park is almost back to its pre-massacre level. And

Wednesday's New York Times followed our last November exclusive about the goose-cide — and made it clear that authorities are again drooling over such a large number of waterfowl.

The federal Department of Agriculture, the newspaper reported, "is gearing up for another round of goose removals this year, using new capturing techniques ... and extending the hunt beyond the birds' molting season."

New techniques? The mind reels in horror at what is about to take place in Prospect Park. Make no mistake, air passengers should be safe. But we find it simply incomprehensible that birds more than seven miles away from JFK Airport needed to be rounded up and gassed simply because other methods of control are less convenient or require more work on the part of humans.

Prospect Park is an urban oasis — the kind of place that we take our kids so that they can experience nature, even in a truncated, somewhat artificial way. Parents have already been barred from letting their children feed the geese — a time-honored rite that goes back, perhaps, to the very dawn of Mankind — in an effort to keep the bird population down.

Now those parents are going to have to explain — again — why all of the birds are gone.

For now, you'll see Pierre — named after



This banded goose showed up last week in Prospect Park.

the founder of his hometown back in Quebec — flying around with the orange tracking tag around his neck, evidence that his movements are being monitored very closely.

Today, we are encouraged by Park officials to delight in his movements, his grace, his flight, yet in the weeks to come, the same authorities will murder him as a pest no different than a rat. It chills the very soul to think that man's need to dominate the world will again lead to the slaughter of these defenseless, beautiful birds.

the broad needs of our growing community.

On Jan. 24 (at 6 p.m.), a joint public hearing about the proposal will be held at our school and many PS 9 parents will be there to speak against the plan. Principal D'Avilar will present her proposal for the school at that time.

Michelle French,
Prospect Heights

Go Walmart!

To the editor,
Walmart may never come to New York City until local elected officials, including Controller John Liu, Public Advocate Bill DeBlasio, City Council Speaker Christine Quinn and other colleagues, get on board ("Walmart PR blitz," Jan. 14).

Virtually all public opinion polls reveal that New Yorkers would like the opportunity to shop at Walmart. The retail, wholesale department store and other unions who oppose it make campaign donations, endorsements, run phone banks and provide volunteers to many of the same elected officials who oppose it.

To avoid the appearance of conflicts of interest, not only should they return those campaign contributions.

Perhaps, your next editorial can expose the dishonorable role of councilmembers who oppose the creation of jobs, good products and tax revenues that would be created by Walmart.

Walmart may actually pay higher salaries and offer more benefits than some of their competitors, such as Target, K-Mart, Costco and B.J.'s, which are already here.

Several hundred thousand New Yorkers work off the books, full and part-time, with no benefits or insurance. Many existing retailers pay minimum wage with no benefits. Public officials, who oppose Walmart, never talk about these abuses.

It is time to allow Walmart the opportunity to compete in the city marketplace. "Politically correct" patrons don't need to shop there, but they should give everyone else a choice.

Larry Penner,
Great Neck, L.I.

Pedal licenses

To the editor,
I am not a bicyclist myself, but a bicycle advocate. I never thought about a license plate, nor noticed the absence of plates, not owning a bicycle myself in New York City ("Sloper wants plates

on Bikes," Jan. 21).

However, I rode a bicycle while growing up in Worcester, Mass., during the 1950s, and a license plate was required then to ride on city streets. The first thing you did when given a bicycle was to register it, obtain a plate and attach it to the bike's rear fender.

As I have watched bicycles passing by, my subconscious mind knew that something was amiss. Thanks to your article, I now know what.

It would not have occurred to me otherwise that bicycles do have a license plate law. Such an obvious requirement!

Ray Howell, Carroll Gardens

Wind energy

To the editor,
Thank you for your article on truly natural gas production ("Turn flutulence into fuel!" Jan. 21).

I hope that this project will serve as an inspiration for nationwide production of clean fuel for heating and transportation.

If this project could be adapted to utilize the waste from hog and poultry producers, then we could keep our waterways clean.

Ed Temple, Park Slope

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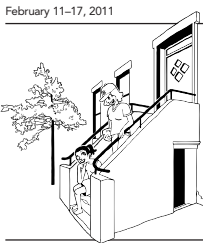
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THE SLOPE

NEIGHBORHOOD REPORT

PARK SLOPE



Some snowed-in cars remained in position, even though they were illegally parked as alternate-side-of-the-street parking returned on Monday.

'Alternate' realities

Snowbound Slopers mad

By Laura Gottensdiner
for The Brooklyn Paper

The streets of Park Slope turned into a disaster zone on Monday morning when alternate-side-of-the-street parking resumed, forcing residents to dig out cars, battle for open spots and, in at least one case, slam into each other.

By 10 am, snow banks and double-parked cars had clogged the streets, making it almost impossible for even the smallest compact to navigate.

"This is the most stupid thing they have ever done!" exclaimed Phyllis Kwalwasser, who lives on First Street near Eighth Avenue. "Trying to get around all the double-parked cars, I thought I was going to have an accident."

Street cleaning had been suspended since Jan. 27, when a massive snowstorm shut down public schools and dumped 20 more inches on an already icy city. But the weekend's temperate weather encouraged city officials to bring back normal parking rules.

"We were lucky enough on Saturday and Sunday to have above-freezing temperatures, a perfect time to have people start digging out their cars," said Sanitation Department spokeswoman Kathy Dawkins.

Yet Park Slope residents were frustrated that they had to dig out for street sweeping, especially when there was not a sanitation truck in sight.

The only reminder about the promised cleaning was a handwritten, cardboard sign sticking out of a snow bank on Carroll Street by Palmetto Place imploring residents to move their cars so the street could be swept.

But the sign stood in vain. "I haven't seen any street sweepers," said David Holmes, who lives on Carroll Street near Seventh Avenue.

Dawkins said that the city had at least one truck out in Park Slope on Monday morning, although she said she certainly "didn't expect trucks to get to every curb."

Many residents refused to move their snow-in cars despite the scheduled cleaning, and many received tickets. The city issued 3,205 summonses across the borough, out of a total 5,910 citywide, according to a NYPD spokesman.

The figures were not broken down by neighborhood. And the morning mayhem cost one driver in the most tangible way.

A man sideswiped a nun's ride on Carroll Street by Palmetto Place, damaging the car's body.

Sister Francis McCool told police that she was stuck waiting in the long line of unmoving traffic when another car slammed into hers from the right side.

"This has been the worst day. First I had to get someone to dig out my car. Then there was all the traffic, and now this accident. I don't know what to do, go home and cry?" McCool said.

Perhaps paying to a higher power—Mayor Bloomberg?—would help.

Myrtle Avenue will be come more friendly to pedestrians with ample seating, shrubbery and a farmer's market under a long-awaited city plan that unveiled to a largely supported public on Tuesday night.

The design for the four street between Hall Street and Emerson Place in Clinton Hill also includes a large public art exhibit and a performance stage—elements that community members called

CARROLL GARDENS

Carroll Piazza?

Andersen wants Park to look European

By Gary Bulso
The Brooklyn Paper

A nationally known radio host and novelist wants to pen the next chapter in the history of Carroll Park by having a hand in its transformation into an Italian-style piazza.

Second Place resident Kurt Andersen, the Peabody Award-winning host of the National Public Radio show "Studio 360" and the author of the acclaimed novel, "Turn of the Century," wants the city to do a 180 on how it envisions the space, located between Smith, Court, Carroll and President streets.

He told this newspaper that his notion is to annex the "unused" western portion of the park near Court Street for the piazza, setting up tables, chairs and awnings—a cosmopolitan space where area cafes could serve drinks and food.

"When you see in Italy and Argentina plazas and piazzas really being used by all the people of a neighborhood, it's a wonderful part of urban life," Andersen said.

"It seems that rather than being a mostly empty spot in the heart of Carroll Gardens, this is the kind of amenity in the neighborhood that a lot of people would enjoy," he added.

The next step will be to meet with the Parks Department to determine if the green scheme is even feasible.

But already, the city says it is willing to hear the plan out.

"Several agencies and planners would have to review it, but Parks is always happy to consider and review good ideas from the community," said Borough Commissioner Kevin Jeffrey.

Andersen, the former ar-



Author Kurt Andersen (right) wants to transform Carroll Park into an Italian-style piazza (which could make sense, given the World War I memorial, above).

"It's somewhat contrived," said Michael Pesce, an appellate court judge and former assemblyman, who was among the residents who lobbied to have part of Court Street co-named to honor an Italian town that sent dozens of residents to Brooklyn.

But those days are long gone, Pesce said.

"Still, it's a good idea so long as people understand that the character and make-up of the community is not what it used to be," he said.

"Is this for tourists? Or is this to have people come back to their old neighborhood?"

Both, says Andersen, a Nebraska-native who has spent the last 21 years in Carroll Gardens.

"Certainly, this connects to the ethnic heritage of the neighborhood of the last century," he said. "But to me, this is for everyone in the neighborhood," he said.

The park started out as a community garden, and was acquired by the City of Brooklyn in 1952, making it one of the oldest green spaces in the city.

It is named after Charles Carroll, a Maryland planter who was the last surviving signer of the Declaration of Independence. The park was last redesigned in 1993.

"It needs a fountain for people to throw coins in," suggested Maria Pagano, the president of the Carroll Gardens Neighborhood Association.

Some longtime residents were skeptical.

GREENPOINT

'HELP' no longer on the way

Greenpoint homeless shelter plan falls apart

By Aaron Short
The Brooklyn Paper

A controversial proposal for a new homeless shelter in Greenpoint has unraveled.

HELP USA has quietly retreated on Friday from its plan to develop a 200-bed men's center at McGuinness Boulevard warehouse in the wake of fierce opposition from neighborhood residents.

The organization's president, Larry Belinsky, said HELP bailed on the center because of its finances.

"Unfortunately we were unable to reach an agreement regarding the operating budget for the project," Belinsky wrote to the Department of Homeless Services and Community Board 1.

"We are disappointed in this outcome, but we do not believe that we could operate a quality assessment center program at the required budget rate."

But Councilman Steve Levin (D-Greenpoint) urged Greenpoint residents who attended community meetings and organized against the shelter as the rea-



HELP USA has bailed on its controversial homeless shelter plan for McGuinness Boulevard.

son behind the proposal's failure.

"The community stood strong and united in opposition to this proposal," said Levin. "I am proud to have worked closely with so many Greenpoint residents to stand up for our community's right to have a say over what happens in our neighborhood."

The Manhattan-based transitional housing nonprofit, run by Gov. Cuomo's sister, first floated the idea to locate a men's assessment center in Greenpoint in August. The project would provide comprehensive assessments, support services, and housing placement assistance to homeless clients referred by the city but would stay at the site for no longer than a month.

Neighborhood residents had been organizing against the shelter proposal because of their concerns about public safety and the project's failure to address Greenpoint's homegrown homeless population.

Greenpoint residents welcomed the news.

"This is fantastic news for all of us because all of us were fighting against the shelter," said CBI Public Safety Chairman Mieszko Kalita. "It would have been a disaster if it happened. I'm glad they couldn't find an agreement with the city."

The future of Greenpoint's homegrown homeless population remains unclear.

CLINTON HILL

Walk on over

Myrtle to be fixed for peds

By Laura Gottensdiner
for The Brooklyn Paper

Myrtle Avenue will be come more friendly to pedestrians with ample seating, shrubbery and a farmer's market under a long-awaited city plan that unveiled to a largely supported public on Tuesday night.

The design for the four street between Hall Street and Emerson Place in Clinton Hill also includes a large public art exhibit and a performance stage—elements that community members called



The city has a new plan to fix Myrtle Avenue, which has four medians like this one near Grand Street.

plection in August, 2013, would eliminate the service road between Grand Avenue and Emerson Place, creating a plaza for pedestrians where there was only a three-foot-wide median separating the service road

at the last community meeting in October, residents said that public art and a water fountain ranked high on the list of things they would enjoy — although some of those requests proved more feasible than others.

"I'm definitely not promising a giant water slide," said Matthew Geller, who was recently selected to design and install the public art. Instead, he plans to create an art project that will be "playful, humorous and disarming," although he doesn't have an actual design yet.

For most part, the three-dozen residents supported the dreamy, Euro-styled vision — though several people opposed proposal to consolidate two bus stops.

The plan also would claim

approximately 60 parking spots, said Kungys — a change that worries some local business owners.

"It's obvious that we'll lose business," said Ronny Moran, a manager at the Associated Supermarket between Hall and Ryerson streets. Moran noted that the supermarket's sales decreased when the street was blocked off for fairs on Sundays in September and, more recently, as snow banks are occupying many parking spots.

Yet there's a flip-side to making a street more friendly to pedestrians—pedestrians tend to use it more.

"I think the changes will help the businesses because so many more people will be walking by," said Galinsky, the Hall Street resident.

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FLIX AND TIX

Film crews say move your car — or else — in Heights next week

By Natalie O'Neill
The Brooklyn Paper

Get ready for another Hollywood invasion!

Cinematic candy Sarah Jessica Parker and hunky Pierce Brosnan will lens the big-screen version of "I Don't Know How She Does It" next week in Brooklyn Heights — and drivers will soon surrender a swath of street parking to fancy production trailers.

The cast and crew will take over at least eight blocks near Atlantic Avenue and Henry Street from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Feb. 16.

Filmmakers will shoot an indoor scene at a townhouse on Willow Street and "walk-and-talk" sidewalk shot on

Garden Place, location managers for the movie said. "It's a relationship comedy, so there won't be any car chases or explosions," said Eric Myers, a publicist for

the film. "Just a few interior shots."

Bright yellow signs in the area of the filming warn that "vehicles will be towed" if

they are not moved by Tuesday, Feb. 15 at 7 p.m.

Locals offered a mixed reaction.

"Parking is a premium here," said Judy Stanton, of the Brooklyn Heights Association.

"But there's still an element of excitement from people who think movies are fun."

And Brooklyn Heights has long been Hollywood's leading lady. Fabled for its gorgeous apartments, scenic streets and killer views of Manhattan, America's first

suburb has been a backdrop for Hollywood's great moments — think Cher kicking a can down Cranberry Street in "Moonstruck," the period street scenes in Martin Scorsese's "The Age of



the film. "Just a few interior shots."

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Actors Sarah Jessica Parker and Pierce Brosnan were filming in Manhattan last week, but the mega-stars will be in Brooklyn Heights next week. Better move your car because the crew from "I Don't Know How She Does It" will be taking over eight blocks.

Innocence," and Jack Nicholson entering 57 Montague St. in "Prizzi's Honor."

Over the years, reactions to film crews have certainly been mixed. In 2007, some Heights drivers gripped when the crew of "Burn After Reading," a Coen Brothers film, took over an area near Cadman Plaza and Hicks Street. Non-drivers were too star-struck to care.

From time to time, neighborhoods are granted hiatus from the carpiece-wearing Hollywood types who tend to take over whole areas at a time, demanding, "Quiet on the set" and preventing pedestrians from making their rounds.

In 2009, Williamsburg received a film about terrorism, and DUMBO has also been periodically placed off-limits to producers.

The new film, which is based on a book by Allison Pearson, follows a female fiction executive — played by "Sex and the City" star Parker — while she finds a balance between home and work.

The movie is directed by Douglas "Emma" McGrath and features "Mad Men" bombshell Christina Hendricks, "SNL" funnyman Seth Meyers, and Greg "Little Miss Sunshine" Kinnear.

Exact locations of the film shooting are not known, as filmmakers are still filing paperwork, a city spokesman said.

"They might hold up traffic for a moment," said Mayrath Ilic of the Mayor's Office of Film, Theater and Broadcasting. "But emergency lanes will stay open."

Cyclist left for dead in hit & run

By Andy Campbell
The Brooklyn Paper

A Fort Greene cyclist was mangled on Friday in a brutal hit-and-run in Williamsburg — and now her friends are on the hunt for the elusive driver who left her for dead.

Serena Rio, 21, was riding near S. Fourth Street and Wythe Avenue at about 2:30 p.m. when a car slammed into her and fled, leaving her lying on the pavement with broken ribs, a punctured lung and missing teeth. Rio miraculously survived.

"I've never seen anybody this demolished on a bike," Rio's friend, Addison Blakemore, said on Monday.

"These hit-and-runs happen

all the time. We just want to find anyone who saw something that day."

Rio was unconscious for most of the weekend, but her friends say that she's now moving and talking at Bellevue Hospital.

Sadly, Blakemore was right to say that driver and cyclist collisions happen all the time. Several cyclists were injured by cars over the weekend, one of whom is clinging to life after a collision on Eighth Avenue in Manhattan.

In Brooklyn, a handful of cyclists have been killed over the past year — two were killed on one day in April — in a series of hit-and-run collisions.

Meanwhile, cops continue to fine cyclists in a ticketing blitz to enforce bike laws — yet most of the cases of bike deaths in Brooklyn in the last year have been the driver's fault.

Blakemore and Rio's boyfriend, Mike Quackenbush, are now on a man-hunt while Rio recovers in the hospital.

They said that Rio can't remember any of the details leading up to the collision, so it's up to them — and now, you — to find out who the hit-and-run driver is.

If anyone has any information regarding Rio's accident, contact Blakemore at ablakemore@gmail.com.

Rape suspect in more attacks

By Natalie O'Neill
and Thomas Tracy
The Brooklyn Paper

The violent thug who tried to rape a young woman near the Brooklyn Academy of Music on Jan. 19 and possibly another woman a week later has now been linked to another, earlier attack in Bensonhurst.

Since police released a sketch of the alleged Fort Greene attacker, the NYPD revealed that the suspect is now wanted for at least three attempted rapes since Jan. 9.

Police say the thug grabbed his first victim, a 28-year-old woman, as she made her way home at 2 a.m. near the corner of New Utrecht Avenue and 63rd Street in Bensonhurst. He threw her against a fence, slapped her and exposed himself as he tried to pull her panties down, but the woman successfully fought the fend off.

Ten days later, the suspect grabbed a 25-year-old woman near the corner of St. Felix Street and Hanson Place at 1:30 a.m. This time, he grabbed his victim from behind and tried to rip off her clothes, police said.

But again, the thug scampered away after his victim screamed, leaving her physically unharmed. At the time, the thug was wearing a dark pea coat with a light-colored, button-down shirt.

Cops soon connected the would-be assailant to a Jan. 26 attack near the corner of Fulton and Cumberland Streets.

During that attack, which was first reported by the blog Fort Greene Patch, the predator grabbed a 24-year-old woman, threw her against a fence and attempted to remove her underwear.

"Don't fight it," the man said as he wrestled with his victim — a fight he quickly abandoned after a witness saw what was happening and yelled for help.

Anyone with information should call NYPD hotline at (800) 577-8447.

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88TH PRECINCT

Fort Greene-Clinton Hill

A daring thief swiped a 1996 Mazda confiscated by 88th Precinct cops on Feb. 2.

Police said the car was impounded and left at the Clason Avenue stationhouse between Dekalb and Lafayette avenues on Jan. 29 after the owner was arrested on a minor charge.

The owner tried to get his car back on Feb. 2, but the police wouldn't give it to him because his driver's license was suspended.

Yet the car disappeared a few hours later — plucked right out from under the NYPD's proverbial nose.

iPhone pluck

Two knife-wielding punks took an iPhone off a 22-year-old man during a fierce Feb. 3 exchange on Flatbush Avenue.

The victim was between Atlantic Avenue and Pacific Street at 12:05 am when the crooks approached and ran off with the pricey smart phone and \$750.

One down

Four thugs mugged a 27-year-old man at the corner of Fulton Street and Rockwell on Feb. 5, but one

of them didn't get away with the crime.

The 22-year-old suspect was arrested shortly after the 5:45 p.m. robbery. His accomplices ran off with the victim's iPhone.

Fire and ice

Two teens robbed a 58-year-old man on Feb. 3 after asking for a light at the corner of Prince Street and Myrtle Avenue.

The victim was nearing the corner at 1:01 p.m. when the suspects approached with their request. But as they drew closer, one of the men accosted their victim, running off with an iPod and \$962.

Bag theft

A thief snatched a bag from a 29-year-old during a Feb. 6 visit to the Burlington Coat Factory on Atlantic Avenue.

The victim told cops that she put her bag on the floor before trying to coast at 3:25 p.m. inside the department store, which is part of the troubled Atlantic Center.

Seconds later, the thief grabbed the unattended bag and fled.

Smash-filled

Several car break-ins were reported to the 88th Precinct this week. Here's the rundown:

• Talk about flipping your lid: A thief broke into a 2005 Chevrolet Tahoe parked on Wiloughby Avenue on Feb. 4 and made off with seven baseball caps! The owner of the SUV — and the hats — said the vehicle was broken into sometime after 9 a.m. as it sat between Ryerson and Grand avenues.

• A thief smashed the driver's-side window to a 1990 Toyota parked near the corner of Wiloughby and Waverly avenues on Feb. 1, removing some credit cards and a check. The thief wasn't discovered until 8 a.m. the next morning.

• Someone shattered the passenger-side window to a 2008 Ford E150 parked on Lafayette Avenue on Feb. 3, taking a bag containing a wallet, some credit cards and \$350. The car was only sitting between Washington and Waverly avenues for five minutes when the 1 pm theft took place, the owner of the car told police.

— Thomas Tracy

84TH PRECINCT

Brooklyn Heights-DUMBO-Boerum Hill-Downtown

Outlaw firms

At least two law firm employees were robbed last week. Here are Exhibits A and B.

• A sneaky thief snatched a woman's wallet at a law firm on Court Street on Feb. 4.

The victim told cops she left her pocketbook on a desk at the Williamsburg branch of the law firm, which is at 100 Court Street, at around 12:45 p.m. When she returned, 35 minutes later, it was gone.

The thief later used one of her credit cards to buy a Metronad.

• A jerk stole a laptop and cash from a Court Street firm on Jan. 29.

The 37-year-old victim told cops someone sneaked into Smith Company Law Group, near Joralemon Street, at about 5 p.m. A couple hours later, the office worker discovered his \$1,100 Coach brand briefcase, \$700 laptop and \$300 cash were missing.

Teen tackle

A gang of thugs beat up a teenager and jacked his electronic goodies on Fulton Street on Feb. 1.

The 15-year-old victim told cops he was strolling near Bond Street at 5:10 p.m., when 10 men attacked him, punching him in the face and causing a gash on his left cheek. With the victim debilitated, they took his Blackberry cellphone and iPod.

Trendy crook

A jerk snatched a bunch of fancy apparel and a laptop from a gym locker at the frequent crime scene, Planet Fitness on Duffield Street, on Feb. 3.

The victim told cops he locked his computer, Diesel brand duffel and Guess brand wristwatch inside a locker at the gym, which is near Fulton Street, at around 11:15 a.m., before heading for his workout. A few hours later, he discovered some-

NABBED! Robbery crew strikes in Fort Greene

By Thomas Tracy
The Brooklyn Paper

A robbery team that's cut a swath of terror across Brooklyn and Queens is apparently now working in Fort Greene.

Police say that since April, 2010, the thugs — two men and a woman — have grabbed seven unsuspecting ladies as they entered their cars and robbed them of their ATM cards.

The thieves then hold the women hostage as they drive around the area in their victim's cars, looking for the nearest ATM.

Upon finding one, the female suspect is sent to withdraw as much as she can from the victim's account.

The crooks leave their victim penniless, but unsathed, police said. In at least one case, the victim was thrown in her trunk before the thieves escaped.

The thieves' last heist was in Fort Greene, when they grabbed a woman as she entered a Saab parked near the corner of S. Oxford Street and Atlantic Avenue on Jan. 24.

The victim had just gotten behind the wheel at 11 p.m. when the two male thugs, who wore masks, threw open the car door.

"Stay, stay," one of them ordered, but the woman didn't listen and instead jumped out of the car and ran off. No weapons were shown.

The thieves sped off in the woman's car, which has yet to be located.

It could have been worse, of course. The 51-year-old victim was the "one who got away," according to police sources.

Cops are asking anyone with information regarding this robbery spree to call (800) 577-8447.

Shop snatch

A thief stole a worker's purse from a bread shop on Hicks Street on Jan. 30.

The 64-year-old victim told cops she was setting up shop near Remsen Street at around 10 a.m., when she placed her purse by the entrance to the shop. After she opened the door, she discovered her purse was gone.

Inside was \$45 and a library card.

— Natalie O'Neill

76TH PRECINCT

Carroll Gardens-Cobble Hill-Red Hook

Dollar dolt

Someone stole \$2 from a man on Hicks Street on Feb. 5.

The 65-year-old victim said he was near Baltic Street at noon when the thug punched him in the face and snatched the cash.

Copy fright

A contractor stole another man's camera after he was videotaping him without permission on Degraw Street on Feb. 1.

The 47-year-old victim said he was near Smith Street when the man became angry at the sight of the camera, snatching it. Officer Veronica Francis later arrested the 47-year-old camera-shy jerk.

Columbia caper

Someone burglarized a van on Columbia Street sometime between Feb. 3 and Feb. 4.

The 26-year-old victim said he parked near Sackett Street at 9 p.m., and when he returned at noon the next day, the white Ford's passenger side window was shattered, and a global positioning device worth \$250 was missing, along with a specialty seat cushion for senior citizens.

— Gary Bulso



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They drove him mad!

94TH PRECINCT

Greenpoint-Northside

This relentless winter finally sent one drunken man over the edge on Jan. 26 — he was arrested for choking his wife after she complained about the snow.

The woman told cops that she told her husband, who had been drinking at their home on N. Eighth Street and Wythe Avenue, to shovel the snow at about 4:15 pm. The soused jerk apparently went berserk and wrapped his hands around her neck, and was promptly arrested.

Gamer

A video game addict broke into a Metropolitan Avenue home on Jan. 25 and stole a gun, a TV, a Playstation 3 and a Nintendo.

The victim told cops that he near Graham Avenue, at about 10:45 am to find the bedroom window open and the expensive gaming devices gone, along with a safe that contained a gun.

Brutal rape

A heartless cretin raped a girl at her Skillman Avenue apartment after he gave her a ride home from a Manhattan club on Jan. 30.

The 21-year-old victim told cops that the two arrived at her home, which is near Woodpoint Road, at about 5 am, when the thug forced her inside and attacked her. He fled before she could call the cops.

Stolen cars

A thief swiped a Honda Civic from its spot on Meeker Avenue near Leonard Street on Jan. 26. The victim realized it was missing at about 4:30 pm.

Some jerk stole a 2006 Audi from its spot on Roebling and N. Eighth streets on Jan. 29. The victim tried to find the car at about 9 am, to no avail.

A thief took a 2011 Acura from N. 12th Street near Wythe Avenue on Jan. 29. The victim noticed it missing at about 9 pm.

— **Andy Campbell**

90TH PRECINCT

Southside-Bushwick

Face punch

Two perps tried to rob a man on Bushwick Avenue on Jan. 30 — but punched him in the face instead be-

POLICE BLOTTER

Find more online every Wednesday at
BrooklynPaper.com/blotter

NABBED! Cops bust Bushwick pot ring

By Aaron Short

The Brooklyn Paper

Police intercepted a CARE package filled with 38 pounds of marijuana from a Morgan Avenue warehouse this morning.

The box was shipped from an out-of-state address and was en route to an address on the Bowery in Manhattan when FedEx employees noticed that it was as easy as your kid's small-remittance of a college dormitory.

They turned the box over to the 90th Precinct narcotics team, which is investigating the location near Ingraham Street — and the folks who mailed the stash.

"This is a huge find," said Deputy Inspector Michael Kemper, the precinct's commanding officer. "The box was from somewhere in California, but [finding the perps] is not as easy as your kid's small-remittance of a college dormitory."

cause he was broke.

The perps approached the man on the stairway of his building near Meserole Street at 11:45 pm. One perp asked, "Do you have the time?" and started searching his pockets for a phone and some cash. When they found none, they struck his face and fled.

Six stick-up

Six perps pummeled a man on McKibbin Street on Jan. 31 before taking his phone.

The man told cops that he had just left the train station near Bogart Street at 5:50 pm when a posse of perps approached and began punching and kicking him, prompting him to surrender his phone.

Salon smartly

A thief and his accomplices stole a phone inside a Broadway nail salon on Jan. 31.

The perps entered the store near Cook Street at

4:20 pm, when one asked,

"Who is smart?"

The victim stood up unexpectedly, and two of the perps punched the man and took his phone.

Graham cracked

A 36-year-old man was hit in the arm by a stray bullet on Graham Avenue on Jan. 31. The victim was leaving his friend's house near Varret Street at 4 am, when he heard three shots and felt pain in his appendage.

He was taken to Woodhull Hospital and treated.

Grand time

A perp broke into a Grand Street apartment near Humboldt Street on Feb. 3 and stole \$6,610 worth of electronics and computers while its tenant was at work during the day.

Wheel bad news

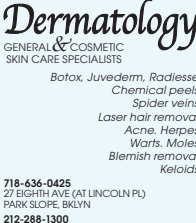
There was lots of auto mania last week.

A man's Honda was swiped from on Kent Avenue overnight on Jan. 31. The owner told cops that he parked near S. Fourth Street at 9 pm, but the car was gone by noon the next day.

A perp broke into a Ford on Humboldt Street near Meserole Street sometime after 7:15 am on Feb. 4, taking \$1,600 worth of tools.

A thief broke into a Ford on N. First Street near Berry Street on Feb. 2 and stole two guitars from the back seat while its owner was helping a friend move furniture at around 2 pm.

— **Aaron Short**



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'Mystery shopping' scam nets \$15K

78TH PRECINCT

Park Slope

A Chinese scammer tricked a 12th Street man out of nearly \$15,000 in a "mystery shopping" Internet swindle earlier this month.

The victim told cops that he received an e-mail invitation to become a "mystery shopper," a secret customer hired by many reputable companies to monitor their employees.

But in this case, the offer was a scam. The fake employer sent the 45-year-old man, who lives near

Sixth Avenue, money orders totaling \$14,689 and told him to deposit them, keep \$100 for the first assignment, and send back the rest of the money via Western Union.

But the money orders turned out to be counterfeit — and the man lost virtually everything.

In a related story, a Nigerian prince offered several other Park Slopes a chance to invest in oil-rich land in the country's delta region.

Quick pick
A thief, possibly dressed as a utility worker, snatched a

POLICE BLOTTER

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wallet from a woman on Seventh Avenue on Feb. 5.

The victim told cops that she was near 10th Street at around 2:20 pm when someone reached into her pocket and picked out the billfold, which contained various cards.

She didn't get a good look at the young man, but said he was dressed in a manner that suggested he was on the job.

Burglary
There were at least three break-ins last week:

• A thief swiped two laptops, gift cards and \$200 from an apartment on First Street near Fourth Avenue on Feb. 3. The victim said the break-in must have occurred between 4 and 5 pm.

• A would-be filmmaker swiped thousands in camera equipment from a President Street production company on Feb. 4.

The victims told cops that the thieves entered shortly after 11:15 am and grabbed a fancy camera and accessories before jumping into a silver Ranger Rover and fleeing towards Third Avenue.

Cops are hunting for the car, with a FD-7339 plate, and two men last seen wearing snorkel jackets. One man is 6-foot-2, 250 pounds, and the other is the same height, but 30 pounds lighter (which is nice for him).

• A thief swiped electronic gizmos from a Fourth Avenue apartment on Feb. 6. The victim said she was not in the unit, which is between Degraw and Sackett streets, between 1:20 and 5:30 pm, when she returned to find a camera, an iPod, a printer, a scanner and speakers missing.

Wheel bad
At least three cars were swiped:

• A 2005 Honda was taken from Seventh Avenue near Sterling Place between 7 and 10 pm on Feb. 4.

• Who wants a 1996 Oldsmobile? A thief did at the corner of 13th Street and Sixth Avenue overnight on Feb. 1, swiping the anti-luvin wheels.

• A thief had an easy time stealing a 1994 GMC truck, thanks to a driver who left the keys on the floor of the unlocked vehicle on Sackett Street between Third Avenue and Nevins Street at 8 am on Jan. 31. The truck was gone two hours later.

The victim left both her car and the truck on the job.

Bathroom blik
When it comes to iPhones, you can, and should, take them with you — even to the bathroom.

A thief managed to palm a pricey smart phone from a restaurant near the corner of Park Place and Flatbush Avenue on Feb. 2 as its owner went to wash up. The victim left both her

77TH PRECINCT

Prospect Heights

A crew of thugs sparked a bloody early morning brawl on Underhill Avenue on Feb. 6 — a fight that landed five men in the hospital.

Witnesses said an argument broke out between two groups inside Club Status on Atlantic Avenue between Underhill and Vanderbilt avenues at 4:25 am.

The fight spilled outside and quickly turned bloody when one of the combatants pulled a knife and jammed it into his 28-year-old opponent's groin.

Another man, 20, was stabbed in the chest and arm.

The remaining victims included a 28-year-old who suffered a broken jaw and a fourth man who was struck in the head with a hammer.

The fifth victim was clobbered with a parking cone — then hit by a passing car when he fell into the street, stunned witnesses told police.

Wallet whisk
A crook snagged a wallet from a strap-hanger inside the Eastern Parkway-Brooklyn Museum station on Feb. 2, but gave up his prize when his victim began chasing him.

The 32-year-old woman was standing by a MetroCard vending machine at 11:40 am when the thief ripped the wallet from her hands.

He ran off, but quickly tossed the wallet away when he realized his victim was at his heels.

Car loot
A crook swiped a wallet from a 2000 Chrysler on Feb. 4 as its owner dropped off packages at a Flatbush Avenue bar.

The owner of the car left the door unlocked as she unloaded it between Park and Sterling places at 5:45 pm — not knowing that a stranger was lightening her pockets.

68TH PRECINCT
Bay Ridge-Dyker Heights

Teen terror
A teenage girl swiped a diamond ring, watch and \$3,500 from an 84th Street apartment on Jan. 27.

The victim told cops that his video surveillance shows an unknown, high school-age girl slipping through the unlocked door of the apartment, which is between Fifth and Sixth avenues, around 6:45 am.

The five-foot-four, pony tail-wearing kid made off with the goods a few minutes later.

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NABBED!

The Brooklyn Paper

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Police say that since April 2010, the thugs — two men and a woman — have grabbed seven unsuspecting ladies as they entered their cars and robbed them of their ATM cards.

The thieves then hold the women hostage as they drive around the area in their victim's cars, looking for the nearest ATM.

Upon finding one, the female suspect is sent out to withdraw as much as she can from the victim's account.

The crooks leave their victim penniless, but unscathed, police said. In at least one case, the victim was thrown in her trunk before the thieves escaped.

Watch out
Someone stole a Rolex watch from a 77th Street doctor's office on Jan. 14.

The victim told cops that he left his pricey accessory on a desk in the office, which is between Fourth and Fifth avenues, at around 8 am. It was gone when he returned several minutes later to retrieve it.

FL. Ham heist
A thief scored big at a Fort Hamilton Parkway apartment on Jan. 31, making off with jewelry, three computers, cards, an iPod and an iPhone dock.

The victim told cops that he left his crib, which is between 85th and 86th streets, at 10:30 am. When he returned at noon, he saw that his front door was open even though he had locked it. The victim realized that the perp must have climbed up the fire escape and through his unlocked window to make off with the major stash.

Salty dog
A sticky fingered perp swiped a purse from the Salty Dog bar on Third Avenue on Jan. 30.

The victim told cops that she left her H&M bag on the counter of the night spot, which is between 75th and 76th streets, while grabbing a drink at around 3 am. It was swiped within minutes. The bag contained cash, checks, cards and a cellphone.

76TH PRECINCT
Carroll Gardens-Cobble Hill-Red Hook

Dollar dolt
Someone stole \$2 from a man on Hicks Street on Feb. 5.

The 65-year-old victim said he was near Baltic Street at noon when the thug punched him in the face and snatched the cash.

Copy fright
A contractor stole another man's camera after he was videotaping him without permission on Degraw Street on Feb. 1.

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Columbia caper
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—Alex Rush

—Gary Buiso



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Freddy's still the same

Look, I may have gentrified Greenpoint when I moved to Brooklyn, and I may have pushed some yuppies out. These things happen. Perfectly good Brooklynites get the shaft, and they have to find a new place to make room.

But Brooklyn, you're go-

ing to make it. I know this, because I've seen the positive side of gentrification the scorned Freddy's bar, which reopened in Park Slope last week after torn down to make way for Atlantic Yards, proved that good can truly



come of bad.

Yes, the Prohibition-era tavern has a new location, but still pays homage to every-

thing that made it Freddy's in the first place: the same dark wood bar, the same wacky video montages by co-owner Donald O'Fin, the same old barflies, the same feel of a great tavern.

As a tribute to its former location — soon to be court-side seats at the Barclays Center — O'Fin and the gang

kept the so-called "chains of justice," a symbol of the bar's fight to stay at the corner of Dean Street and Sixth Avenue, a losing battle thanks to the state's unquestioned eminent domain power. The chains are there, but now the only reason to chain oneself to them is to prevent the inevitable drunken fall from a stool.

Freddy's opening night proved that the bar still has the same character. This time, though, there were a whole lot more people. Like, hundreds more.

Given all the familiar faces that night — resident country music legend Andy Friedman and anti-Atlantic Yards activist Steve de Seve, to name a few — I had to ask, will Shoppers like the new dive at Fifth Avenue and 17th Street pack out the bar once the hype wears down?

"It's gonna blow up — I think it'll be a destination location," said O'Fin, who managed the old spot. "This area's a whole lot like the old Park Slope. The people were pushed out to here, and they need this bar."

It certainly felt like they needed the bar, considering the standing room-only facility that night and the live music blaring from a (heavily soundproofed) backroom.

The only real differences at this Freddy's are the new location, the new sound system, the new owners and the memory of a Downtown favorite that was bought out by the man. The whiskey, the dim lights, the cheers are all the same.

Everybody partied hard, with little mention of the Atlantic Yards behemoth that thought it had driven the former watering hole into the ground. It was almost like Freddy's was, well, Freddy's.

"It definitely has the essence of our old dive," said Slopesresident Lexie Prossin, who said that the new spot is still her classic spot. "We'll be coming here again."

So Bruce Ratner's Atlantic Yards rises where Freddy's once stood. You could keep complaining, but I've chosen a different strategy — chugging whiskey at my new favorite South Slope bar.

Freddy's Bar (627 Fifth Ave. between 17th and 18th streets in Park Slope, (718) 768-8131).

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— Stephen Soiffer

Special Asst to the President

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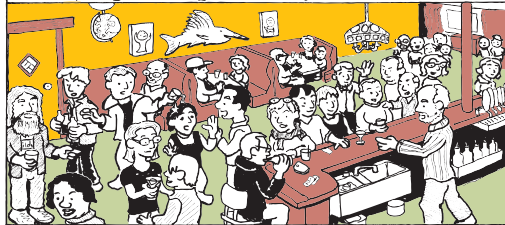
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BAR SCRAWL

We sent our nightlife cartoonist to Freddy's opening party as well.



The re-opening of Freddy's Bar was jammed with revelers.



But the five bartenders on duty managed to keep up with the crowd.



Angela, a long-time Freddy's regular:

The new space? It feels right!

It already has a neighborhood feel.

Yeah, but everyone's a lot happier!

Overflowing tip jar

You can tell they put a lot of love into this place.

Matt, here for the first time.

MARTY...

Continued from page 1

didn't even mention the carcass Governor or federal slaughter of hundreds of geese in Prospect Park.

The crowd, however, didn't seem to mind sitting through a 90-minute puff piece.

"He didn't miss a beat!" said Saul Katz, a Kingsboro Community College dean. "The speech was ter-

rific."

Even Mayor Bloomberg showed up to praise Markowitz, saying that "Brooklyn has arrived — and it's very much due to Markowitz."

And in true Markowitz fashion, the State of the Borough address had plenty of bells and whistles. The Beep's nostalgic look back at 2010 even featured a photo montage that included a shot of

him and Beyoncé, and a photo of him with Brooklyn Decker, Esquire Magazine's "sexiest woman alive."

"I am the perfect size for her if she needs an arm rest," Markowitz said.

DUMBO resident Decker may not have schlepped down to Sunset Park for the speech, but another Brooklyn beauty did make an appearance: this year's Miss Brooklyn, Christina Moore.

Moore was one of more than 20 honored "Brook-

lyn characters," who also included national texting champ Brianna Hendrickson and Det. Feris Jones, who was of-f-duty when she busted a gun-wielding robber at a Bed-Stuy hair salon.

The extravaganza concluded with a performance by another woman who gets the Beep's heart beating — Bay Ridge strip-tease and exercise teacher Stephanie Mancuso.

It was likely the first and only time someone pole danced on a public high school stage.

POLE...

Continued from page 1

Foundation. "I love Marty, but this was over-the-top."

Bay Ridge pole-dancing and exercise teacher Stephanie Mancuso was one of several leading borough women to receive a shout-out from the Beep. But Markowitz's enjoyment of Mancuso's contribution to Brooklyn culture went far beyond a mere "at-

tagit." Instead, Markowitz ended his annual assessment of the borough's present condition by yielding the stage at Sunset Park HS to the tight-leotard-clad Mancuso, who proceeded to gyrate suggestively up and down (and backwards and forwards) on a stripper pole.

The next day, the blogs and our own website were filled with negative reactions.

"Marty is a putz," wrote one commenter who signed as Morris from Sunset Park. "He's an embarrassment to

Brooklyn."

Karen from Ditmas Park added, "Marty is a total schmuck. What a misogynist, too!"

"Seriously," added Susan from Windsor Terrace, "a pole dancer at a speech held at a PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL?"

Commenters may also have been reacting to other portions of the speech, in which Markowitz couldn't resist showing off photos of him with glittery celebrities

Beyoncé, Brooklyn Decker and Christy Turlington, who were included in the speech for eye candy.

"Tall women have a thing for short, chubby guys," cracked Markowitz.

The joke was anything but isolated to this one speech. Markowitz also made some frat house-groaners about the borough's suit-tied Yards ground-breaking

ceremony in March, which was attended by her hubby, the rapper Jay-Z. The Beep spent several minutes wailing a picture of Beyoncé kissing him on the cheek, a photo taken at a joint appearance earlier in the year.

"If I had met her before you, I could have been a contender," Markowitz told Jay-Z while members of the audience rolled their eyes.

And at last year's State of the Borough address, Markowitz discussed his lust for actress Vanessa Williams, whom he met while she was filming at Borough Hall.

"I think she was a little interested in me!" Markowitz exclaimed.

Markowitz's loose lips are not limited to the occasional bad joke. In fact, he's still in legal hot water resulting from a sex discrimination lawsuit against him by ex-staffer Regina Weiss in 2007, alleging that Markowitz runs an office that tolerates chauvinist remarks. The suit even claims Markowitz

nicknamed a female former press secretary "Tinkerbell" for leaving various items scattered about Borough Hall like "pinky dice dust."

But the Beep insists that he meant nothing insulting about his possibly demeaning characterization and that his office is not an immature boy's club.

Markowitz and his staff also stand behind the State of the Borough's grand strip-tease finale, saying that they were highlighting a unique form of exercise that is being taught by one of the borough's "great characters."

"Strip-tease is not the appropriate term — this studio teaches fitness and, in fact, it is a growing form of fitness and even has its own regional and national competitions," said Markowitz's spokesman Mark Zustovitch.

"As for the performance, we have received positive feedback from attendees, who enjoyed the show and called this year's State of the Borough one of our best."

CLONES...

Continued from page 1

She was pilloried around the nation, but Cyclones General Manager Steve Aguilera offered the kind of sympathy that could only be offered by a man who has heard the national anthem sung by amateurs more than 350 times over the past 10 years.

"We've all made mistakes," said Cohen, who hosts annual "auditions" to find new performers before every season. "But when most of us make mistakes, it's not in front of 100 million people watching in every corner of the world."

The typical Cyclone game draws 8,500 people — and they've proven to be a mostly appreciative crowd.

Nonetheless, Cyclones officials are skeptical that the Staten Island native Aguilera will accept their invitation (perhaps she's a Yankee fan).

"I can't imagine that it's something that she would get involved in," said Cyclones spokesman Billy Harner. "But if she would consider it, we would love to have her."

Aguilera declined to comment on the Cyclones' offer — but did wish to remind her fellow Americans of her feelings about the good of US of A.

"I can only hope that everyone could feel my love for this country and that the true spirit of its anthem still came through," Aguilera said.

BUS...

Continued from page 1

Canada, where such technology is already popular. "We could be waiting inside a Starbucks instead of out here."

The pilot program — which cost the MTA \$500,000 — uses a computer chip planted inside the buses to help commuters gauge when to show up at the stops.

Users can download the free app at time.mta.info (inset).

The lesstechnologically advanced passengers can also text the MTA with a

six-digit code displayed at each bus stop and receive a message back about the whereabouts of the bus.

The MTA said it chose the BGS not because it is always on the list of the slowest buses in the borough, but because the agency "wanted a route with a good amount of ridership" and buses that are already compatible with the tracking software, said agency spokesperson Judie Glave.

If successful, the program will be expanded across the city.



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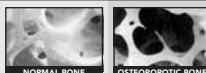
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Ladies blight

Man sues to halt drink special for women, claims it's discrimination

By Natalie O'Neill
The Brooklyn Paper

Nightclub owners in Brooklyn have a message for an anti-feminist Manhattan lawyer who claims that "ladies' night" discounts are discriminatory against men: You're out of your mind, sir.

After all, bar owners say, ladies' night discounts are not, uh, lady — designed for men, too. Sure, they may not benefit from reduced prices on booze, but they invariably benefit from the way women behave when they have taken advantage of reduced prices on booze.

"It's common sense," said Junior, a manager at Club Temptations, a Caribbean club on Church Avenue in Flatbush. "If there are women at a club, it's good for guys."

That argument appears to be lost on Roy Den Hollander, a Manhattanite who keeps filing discrimination suits claiming that the events

treat men like "the disposable sex."

Hollander first filed a class-action suit in 2007 claiming that his rights under the 14th Amendment — which guarantees equal protection — are being trampled because girls get reduced bar prices while he and his male cohorts must pay full price for the same product.

"Men these days get treated like second-class citizens," he told The Brooklyn Paper. "Even a dog has more rights."

A federal judge tossed out his case — no doubt because part of Den Hollander's argument is that feminism is "a religion" — and a couple weeks ago, the Supreme Court refused to hear the appeal.

But Den Hollander is an "attention seeker" and "a knuck-

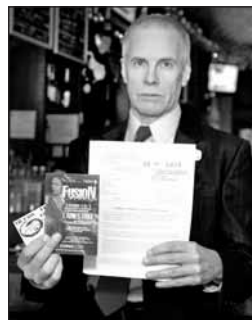
lehead," said Greg Yerman, general manager of Burrito Bar and Kitchen on Flatbush Avenue in Prospect Heights, whose surfer-themed ladies' night on Thursday is better attended by neighborhood gay chicks than single men looking to score.

"It's just one of those things that bars don't do for women," Yerman said, touting the half-priced drinks for drinkers from the distaff side. "Guys get other perks. Life's not fair."

And don't get the females at those bars started on the subject of nightlife sexism.

"Girls still make 70 cents to every man's dollar; we deserve a freaking Budweiser," said Laura Rogers, co-owner of Daddy's in Williamsburg, which does a mock ladies' night on Sundays.

The vibe at her cozy Christmas light-illuminated bar was anything but serious when this reporter — a lady — swung by on a re-



Roy Den Hollander is upset at bars that offer ladies' night because they're unfair to men (he says). He shot Den Hollander at The Brazen Head on Atlantic Avenue, but not on a ladies' night, when women get Happy Hour prices all night long.

cent chilly night.

In total, there were three females at the bar, and even so, conversation was flowing faster than those micro-brew IPAs.

"This lawyer sounds like a bit of a prick," said Sophie Wright, a 21-year-old Australian-to-Williamsburg transplant whose curly blond hair was pulled into a tidy bun as she sipped her half-price red wine. "He's certainly not helping himself get women."

A thin fellow sitting next to her introduced himself as "Nick," took a sip from his black tumbler and explained that ladies' nights are fun when they're set up like a novelty.

"I don't go out 'hunting,'" he said, gesturing towards his female friend. "[But] here we are, and she's getting free drinks. I'm actually quite happy for her."

Across the bar, two 50-something men said Den Hollander should choose from one of the real injustices on planet earth and fight that

instead.

"He's thinking too much," said David Whitmer, who usually avoids gimmicky night events because he prefers quiet, little bars.

But Den Hollander isn't the only bloke who has been perturbed by nightlife privileges for the opposite sex. In 1998, a drinker named David Gillespie alleged sex discrimination at a beachside restaurant in New Jersey because owners charged him a \$5 entrance fee while letting women in free.

After reviewing the case — for six long years — the state court banned ladies' nights as discriminatory. Then-Gov. James McGreevey later denounced the ruling as "bureaucratic nonsense."

Den Hollander doesn't think so. The lawyer, who said he grew disillusioned with women after accidentally marrying a Russian prostitute, is still trying.

He lost a court battle, but said the fight isn't over. "Now we take it to the streets," he proclaimed.

Where the perks are

By Natalie O'Neill
The Brooklyn Paper

We'll let you in on a secret: Ladies' nights were created more for men than women.

But in this contrary borough — where gender roles are as fluid as those sticky pink drinks — these bargain nights are anything but traditional. Here's our guide the best in town:

Daddy's

At this neighborhood watering hole, women finagle two-for-one drinks while DJ plays "silly, ladies-themed" hits — all in the name of irony, of course, on Sundays.

Daddy's 435 Graham

Ave. at Frost Street in Williamsburg, (718) 609-6388

The Brazen Head

The party gets started early here, where a crowd of law-ye-types drink happy-hour-priced wine and cocktails all night on Wednesdays.

Brazen Head 228 Atlantic Ave. at Court Street in Boerum Hill, (718) 488-0430

The Woods

It's a hipster-feminist right of passage on Wednesdays at this intimate bar, where chicks score two-for-one drinks from 11 pm to close.

The Woods 48 S. Fourth

St. at Wythe Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 782-4955

Crossroads

Ladies skirt the \$25 cover at this floating monthly night of hip hop for "urban black professionals."

Crossroads 402 Third Ave. at Sixth Street in Gowanus, (718) 596-7623

Burrito Bar

A swinging '60s, surfer-themed night attracts more lesbians than straight folks looking to score.

Burrito Bar 2307 Flatbush Ave. at Prospect Place in Prospect Heights, (718) 230-8646

Our columnist eats dog food

Don't think of it as dog food. Think of it as the ultimate conversation starter.

Hannah Mandelbaum and Alison Wiener, makers of Ever More Hearty Dog Food, throw down the ultimate gastronomy gauntlet this week when they vowed to eat their high-end chicken or beef puppy chow every day for the entire month of March.

Well, I've consumed some crazy nutrients for The Brooklyn Paper (yes, I'm thinking about those caffeine suppositories and that time I ate bugs) and I've done some questionable things (look, the less said about that all-nude drawing class, the better), so you bet I bought a



By Gersh Kuntzman

DOGS...

Continued from page 1

nary fetish on YouTube. It's no wonder, a recent study found that high-end dog food tastes just like pie.

Though not everyone has a taste for dog food. Back in 2008, Councilman David Yassky (D-Brooklyn Heights) initially promised to eat a dog biscuit made by an organic, pup food co. in his pany also in Red Hook, but he demurred when he was presented with the savory

treat in question.

Still, Mandelbaum and Wiener realize that they could attract an eclectic range of followers, but anyone expecting to see something strange — besides two women eating dog food — is barking up the wrong tree.

"We're not going to put it in dog bowls," Mandelbaum said, adding that the dog-food-eating thing isn't for everyone. "It would benefit from a little hot sauce."

front-row ticket to this dog-and-pony show.

Mandelbaum and Wiener sent over a quart of the good stuff — a mix of chicken, chicken organs, yams, carrots, kale, barley, vitamins, minerals and pumpkin seeds — and I got to work.

Because when the going gets tough, the tough eat dog food.

And you know what? It's meaty and a bit grainy, yes, but the only discernible scent comes from the kale. It's a bit like lettuce, but more bland, the kind of pate that a French poodle would sniff at and then walk away.

But since when have I valued the opinions of French poodles?

I could have stopped at one bite — journalism had been served, after all (hello, Pulitzer committee!) — but

the managers had to dispel a rumor without any evidence that there's a real problem.

"Yeah, yeah, I've heard — but we've been going here forever and we haven't seen anything," said Garrett Palardy, who'd just seen "True Grit."

"It's a crappy theater, but nobody's getting bitten."

But another Slope resident said he'd never go again after hearing about the alleged bedbug siege.

"They should post fliers outside even if it's just a bunch of people talking," said Carolyn Demos.

If there were bedbugs, the theater would join an exploding list of Brooklyn spots hit by the bloodsuckers. The pesky insects must have a taste for Downtown, as they've hit the District Attorney's office, the Legal Aid Society on Livingston Street, and even National Grid's office in the Community Newspaper Group building in Metrotech (full disclosure: the energy giant's offices are

DOWN THE HATCH: Kuntzman was at first appalled, but then after sniffing the dog food, he stopped it right back. This is not Photoshopped.

something made me put the fork in again. It's good.

And when I added a touch of hot sauce — human hot sauce, of course. I don't eat dog hot sauce — it's actually delicious.

Would I eat Evermore dog food every day? Sure — but at \$14 a quart, I'm going to need to find some kibbles to keep me in the style to which I have become accustomed.

not physically connected to ours, and no bedbugs have been sited at CNG).

That said, there is no picture, no video, no visual proof of bedbugs at the theater. And it would be impossible to verify if a bedbug victim picked up the mite at the Pavilion or elsewhere. The Brooklyn Paper staff has gone to movies undercover on several occasions, simply trying to watch a film and get bitten by a bedbug. But no luck (the movie was lousy, too).

up a fight — even though the diner was at one time in its storied history considered an "eyesore" according to Aigner's former business partner Diane Wiescamp.

"We Coked up the place, should really save one of our great old culinary landmarks, a most delicious morsel of pop roadside art... Don't let the Coney Island die," Thomas Noel, a professor at the University of Colorado told the blog, Amusing the Zillion.

The diner was built in 1966 and originally located in Denver. Aigner bought and restored the 10-seat restaurant in 2006, and said it is well worth the asking price.

"It's one of the last vestiges of 1950s roadside art," Aigner said. It's an antique that can produce a lot of profit.

One caveat: if the joint is moved, its unique menu will have to come with it.

That means the elk jalapeno bratwurst — a top seller — must come along for the ride.

"If someone wants to move it, the Western traditions would have to follow," Aigner insisted.

CONY...

Continued from page 1

"It's very simple: this belongs back in Coney Island, even though it has never been here before," declared George Shea, the chairman of Major League Eating, the govern-

ing body of all stomach-centric sports and the sponsor of the annual Nathan's hot dog-eating contest. "This is its home. As a community, we owe it to ourselves to bring it to Brooklyn."

dent Beth Marchese. "I have a baby, and it's like no one ever stops. There are so many kids here, it's Baby Central."

Kolins suggested the Boerum Hill plan could emulate England's "20 is Plenty" program, which includes better signage and physical barriers to make speeding more difficult.

The program, started in 2001, is credited with reducing traffic fatalities across the country.

The prospect of a speeding ticket, which can range in price between \$45 to \$300, is already an incentive to slow down, yet speeding along Atlantic and

And area historians are keen on the idea, too.

"Vernacular architecture is a perfect fit for Coney Island," said Charles Denson, executive director of the Coney Island History Project, a museum.

And there's certainly precedent. Coney Island was once home to an elephant-shaped

hotel, a giant orange-shaped juice stand, and the inextricable Cow, a life-sized wooden cow that dispensed milk from its bronzed udders.

"A giant hot dog would be a great fit for the Boardwalk, although a giant potato knish might be fun, too," Denson said.

But Coloradans may put from 2005 to 2009.

"Even 10 miles per hour too fast can mean the difference between life and death," Transportation Commissioner Janet Sadik-Khan said in December.

For now, 20 mph zones are limited to areas near schools and hospitals.

But if the Bronx data is promising, some 15 new zones citywide could be created, officials said.

Forecasters, that's promising news.

"They should change it, Angelina Olmo said as she surveyed the scene at Warren and Smith streets. "There is so much traffic here, especially on the weekends, people are all over the place."

SLOW...

Continued from page 1

10 mph from the city standard — would cover a large area bounded by Court Street, Fourth Avenue, Pacific Street and Baltic Street, according to Levin spokeswoman Hope Reichbach, who grew up in Boerum Hill, and said the area has become a victim of its own success.

"Traffic has definitely gotten worse," she observed.

And along with the number of cars, residents have also multiplied — another reason locals resent the go-slow zone.

"It's a good idea," said resident Beth Marchese. "I have a baby, and it's like no one ever stops. There are so many kids here, it's Baby Central."

Kolins suggested the Boerum Hill plan could emulate England's "20 is Plenty" program, which includes better signage and physical barriers to make speeding more difficult.

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The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings

February 11-17, 2011

Breast friends

She paints women like they are — flawed and beautiful

By Meredith Deliso
The Brooklyn Paper

Georgia O'Keeffe had flowers. Clarity Haynes has breasts.

Over the past 12 years, the Sunset Park-based artist has painted hundreds of breast portraits — classical representations of other realistically imperfect female subjects, done in miniature pieces, life-sized pastels and, more recently, giant oil paintings.

Tabla Rasa Gallery in Sunset Park will show off more than three dozen Haynes pieces starting on Feb. 12.

"She's a prolific artist, with remarkable skill and an exceptional talent for rendering human flesh and form," said gallery owner Audrey Anastasi. "This series epitomizes both the tenderness and power of her vision."

The name of the show — "Radical Acceptance" — was inspired by something said by one of Haynes's models.

"It can refer to people looking at the art — it's radical to accept something you're not used to seeing," said Haynes, referring to the non-airbrushed, typically older representations of the female body. "But it's really about the models. It's radical to realize you can change your feelings about your body and become powerful in your body."

Haynes would know. The project started after she painted her own portrait when she was in her mid-20s in an attempt to come to terms with her own thoughts about her body. Since then, she's painted more than 500 of these breast portraits, finding models at women's festivals, by word-of-mouth, and even through Craigslist.

Lately, Haynes has taken to enlarging her portraits to larger-than-life proportions, something she took inspiration from Georgia O'Keeffe, who once said she painted flowers big because, since they're small, no one has time to look at them.

"By making them larger, I hope that people really see the beauty that I see,"



Simply the breast: Clarity Haynes is not one for subtlety. In her new show, "Radical Acceptance," opening at Tabla Rasa on Feb. 12, the Sunset Park artist confronts unrealistic ideals of female beauty by portraying real bodies in all their, um, glory.

said Haynes.

For Haynes, that means lovingly painting blemishes most women would be ashamed of — from stretch marks and veins to such trauma as mastectomies. Through the act of painting, she hopes her models — and viewers — will come

to accept them as beautiful, too.

"People may have an initial reaction of, 'Oh no, that's horrible, I don't want to see that,'" said Haynes. "But what I'm hoping is as they look, gradually, something else will come in, some sense of peace and power."

"Radical Acceptance" at Tabla Rasa Gallery (224 48th St. between Second and Third avenues in Sunset Park, (718) 833-9100) Feb. 12-March 5, with a panel discussion on opening day. Open Thursday-Saturday from noon-5 pm. Free. For info, visit www.tablarasagallery.com.



Drawn to it: Kevin Curran and Amy Lincoln show off work at their gallery, Laundromat, on Wyckoff Avenue.

The 'Beat' goes on

Bushwick galleries, studios open up

By Aaron Short
The Brooklyn Paper

Catch some of the neighborhood's most exciting emerging artists when Bushwick's elusive art spaces open simultaneously for Bushwick Beat Nite on Feb. 18.

The Friday night event is Bushwick-based curator Jason Andrew's attempt to coordinate the neighborhood's gallery scene, similar to Chelsea's Thursday openings or DUMBO's open studios nights.

"Bushwick has been around for a while, but there are a lot of people who don't know what's going on out here," said Andrew, who has organized five Bushwick art crawls so far.

Since 2007, a handful of galleries have sprung up in former factories, empty storefronts, and living rooms of lofts near Flushing Avenue, the main industrial strip that separates Bushwick from Williamsburg.

This month, three art spaces are featuring openings, including the grand reopening of Laundromat, which was once on the fourth floor of a Boorum Street building above — you guessed it — a Laundromat.

The space, which will feature video works of artist Walsh Hansen and Alex Hoyer's performance piece of conversations she recorded on the subway, has moved to gallery director Kevin Curran's living room on Wyckoff Avenue.

"You go through a rigmarole to get in, but it's going to look a little bit nicer in there," said Curran. "Initially doing these shows, it was just people I know and immediate friends. This process is about branching from that."

And at Famous Accountants, the basement of a three-story row building on the border of Brooklyn and Queens, artist Meg Hitchcock has been affixing the walls of the space with a collage using words cut out of an English translation of the Koran's book of revelations.

"We're probably going to get a few letters about that," said Famous Accountants founder Kevin Regan. Bushwick Beat Nite is at various locations on Feb. 18, 6-10 pm. For info, visit www.norteamart.org.

DINING

Winging it!

The hardest thing in professional sports is repeating as Super Bowl champions — but it's even harder to pull off a "two-peat" at the annual Best Wings in Brooklyn contest on Saturday at Red Star in Greenpoint.

But Colette Burnett of Super Wings is not worried.

"We're coming with our best game," said Burnett. "We're expecting to win."

The Caribbean-influenced restaurant will have to contend with 20 other contestants for this year's trophy, including Wheeler's, the Sheephead Bay bar that finished third last year.

Judges include some of the most discerning palates in town, including Brooklyn Paper editor Geri Kuntzman.

"I'm disappointed in how many wing entrepreneurs don't understand the delicate balance among spice, crispiness and flavor," Kuntzman professed. "As such, I'll be looking for those three things with an eager palate and a critical mind."

But you don't need Kuntzman's expertise to feast; entry is free and the portions are ample.

Best Wings in Brooklyn at Red Star (37 Greenpoint Ave. at West Street in Greenpoint, (718) 349-0162) Feb. 12 at 2 p.m. Free. For info, visit www.redstarry.com. —Alex Rush

THEATER

Pirate land

Ahoy, mates!

The Ironclad Center is battling down the hatches as it hosts "Treasure Island," a new swashbuckling adaptation of Robert Louis Stevenson's coming-of-age story.

Tony Award-winning director B.H. Barry has been working on this version for more than a decade, finally perfecting the schooners, tropical islands and one-legged scoundrel to tell the story right.

"I started this 14 years ago and have been improving ever since," said Barry, whose swashbuckling, family-friendly show begins Feb. 17 at the Fort Greene space.

The director has kept the language and message of the original story, too, and the costumes are in 18th-century style to further bring the classic book to life.

Those characters are just going to spring off the page," said Barry.

"Treasure Island" at the Ironclad Center (85 S. Oxford St. at Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 488-9233) Feb. 17-March 26. Tickets \$20-45. For info, visit www.ironclad.org. —Michelle Manetti

CINEMA

Pot party

Nobody does lowrow better than the highrow folks at the Brooklyn Academy of Music.

Next week, as part of the suitably named "Grass and Ash" series, BAM will show "Cheech and Chong's Nice Dreams" and "Potky's."

"We do like to mix the high and low in our programming," said Jake Perlin, assistant curator of BAM's cinema series. "This is not the first time we have shown films that are decidedly non-award-winning, and it won't be the last."

For now, on Feb. 15, you can enjoy "Nice Dreams" (pictured) — the "grass" portion of the equation — as a pre-Pee-Wee Paul Reubens, a young Sandra Bernhard and even Timothy Leary join that famous stoner duo, who are selling highly potent marijuana from an ice cream truck in this weed-fueled adventure.

The next night, "Potky's" — the teen raunch comedy that's spawned countless imitators — brings the "ash," as the horny players of Angel Beach High's varsity basketball team enact revenge on the owner of local nudie bar for throwing them out. Don't miss Kim Cattrall in a sexed-up role that rivals anything she's done on "Sex and the City."

"Grass and Ash" at BAM (30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100), with "Cheech and Chong's Nice Dreams" screening on Feb. 15 at 6:50 and 9:15 pm and "Potky's" on Feb. 16 at 6:50 and 9:15 pm. Tickets \$12 (\$7 for members). For info, visit www.bam.org. —Meredith Deliso

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WHERE TO GO

EDITORS' PICKS

FRIDAY
February 11

Brooklyn Opry

No need to travel to Nashville. The Kings County Opry presents a night of bluegrass, blues, ballads and folk music of yore with a round-up of Brooklyn bands that will get your heart yearning for the country life. Little Jimmy Dickens would be proud.

8:30 pm. "Kings County Opry" at Jolopy (315 Columbia St. between Hamilton Avenue and Woodhull Street in Crown Heights, 718) 623-7225. www.kingscountyopry.com

SATURDAY
February 12

Girls on field

The ultimate American sport gets turned on its head in "The Pony Palace/FOOTBALL," a play about an all-girls high school football team that shyly subverts gender norms. Equipped with cheerleaders and a full marching band playing Lady Gaga songs, it might be better than the Super Bowl's half-time show.

8 pm. "The Pony Palace/FOOTBALL" at The Bushwick Starr (207 Starr St. between Wyckoff and Irving Avenues in Bushwick, 718) 668-4444. Tickets \$15. For info, visit www.thebushwickstarr.org



SUNDAY
February 13

Susan time

Here's your chance to ask Susan Sarandon all of your burning questions as part of BAM's 13-film retrospective of her career that's spanned music, comedy, drama, suspense and more drama. After the 4:30 pm screening of "Dead Man Walking" (her Oscar role), Sarandon will take your questions. Question 1: Is Kevin Costner as annoying in real life as he was in "Bull Durham"?

4:30 pm. "Dead Man Walking" at The Bell House (149 Seventh Street and Third Avenue in Gowanus, 718) 643-6510. Tickets \$10 in advance, \$12 at door. For info, visit www.thebellhouse.org

MONDAY
February 14

Love stinks

Love really is a battlefield, so if you've recently been rejected and spurned by the love of your life spend this Valentine's Day with folks like you at "Rejection Show," featuring writers, comedians (like Jon Friedman, pictured), cartoonists and artists all telling stories of failure and heartbreak. Afterwards, rock out to love songs from music's greatest decade ever — the 1980s — with a live band.

7 pm. "Rejection Show" at The Bell House (149 Seventh Street and Third Avenue in Gowanus, 718) 643-6510. Tickets \$10 in advance, \$12 at door. For info, visit www.thebellhouse.org



THURSDAY
February 17

Modern 'Family'

Catch Bushwick natives Akron/Family at the Knitting Factory and you'll get to hear some top-notch experimental indie rock. The band is celebrating its fifth album, "S/T II: The Cosmic Birth and Journey of Shinju TNT," which finds the trio looking back almost nostalgically on its beginnings (the album title is even a reference to the band's self-titled debut).

8:30 pm. Akron/Family at the Knitting Factory (361 Metropolitan Ave. near Haver Avenue in Williamsburg, 718) 527-6066. Tickets \$15. For info, visit www.bk.knittingfactory.com

NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

FRI, FEB. 11

CRAFT FAIR: Handmade jewelry, clothing, pottery, cups, sweets and other treats at the Valentine event. Free. 1:30 am-6 pm. Brooklyn Historical Society (128 Pierrepont St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, 718) 222-4111. www.brooklynhistory.org

BONSAI TREE PARTY: Dinner to honor Japanese gastronomy and horticulture. \$75. 6:30-11 pm. Brooklyn Botanic Garden (1000 Washington Ave. at Eastern Parkway in Crown Heights, 718) 623-7225. www.bbg.org

FILM, "PRETTY BABY": As part of the 13-film retrospective "The Susan Sarandon Picture Show," \$12 (members \$7). 6:50 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, 718) 636-4100. www.bam.org

THEATER, "THE DIARY OF A MAD-MAN": Geoffrey Rush stars as the titular madman in an adaptation of Cope's darkly comic short story. \$20-\$95. 7:30 pm. BAM Harvey Theater (651 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, 718) 636-4100. www.bam.org

MUSIC, INDIAN ROCK CONCERT: Dier-dard annual covers night. \$7. 8 pm. Union Hall (702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, 718) 638-4400. www.unionhall.org

THEATER, "THE DROWNY CHAPTER ONE": Gallery Players perform the Tony-winning musical. \$16 (4 seniors and children under 12). 8 pm. Gallery Players (199 14th St. between Fourth and Fifth Avenues in Park Slope, 718) 352-3101. galleryplayers.com

THEATER, "FROST/NIXON": Peter Morgan's revered play, based on the series of televised interviews between former President Richard Nixon and David Frost. \$15, \$13 (8 pm. Heights Players (26 Willow Pl. between Joralemon and State streets in Brooklyn Heights, 718) 237-2752. www.heightsplayers.org

THEATER, "THE PONY PALACE FOOTBALL": Gender roles get turned on their head in this new play about a high school girls football team. \$15. 8 pm. The Bushwick Starr (207 Starr St. between Wyckoff and Irving Avenues in Bushwick, 718) 668-4444. www.thebushwickstarr.org

MUSIC, CLASSICAL CONCERT: Selections by Mozart, Schubert, with Olga Vinokur, piano. \$35 (\$30 senior, \$15 student). 8 pm. Bargemusic (Pulitzer Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street and Furman Street in DUMBO, 718) 624-2553. www.bargemusic.org

MUSIC, "BLACK BROOKLYN RENAISSANCE — THE NEW GENERATION": Free. 8 pm. BAM Cafe (30 Lafayette Ave. in Fort Greene, 718) 625-0080. www.brooklynartscenter.org

MUSIC, "TELL THE WAY": The Brooklyn Youth Chorus performs. \$35-\$50. 8 pm. St. Ann's Warehouse (188 Water St. at Dock Street in DUMBO, 718) 254-8779. www.stanswarehouse.org

INTERNS
Michelle Manetti

SAT, FEB. 12

CROOKED FINGERS play the Bell House on Feb. 19.

MUSIC, KINGS COUNTY OPY: \$10. 8:30 pm. Jolopy (315 Columbia St. between Hamilton Avenue and Woodhull Street in Crown Heights, 718) 623-7225. www.kingscountyopry.com

NERD NITE: Pre-Valentine's Day presentations about adult virgins, false memories and "Forgotten Founding Father" Thomas Paine. \$10. 9 pm. Galapagos Art Space (16 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, 718) 222-8500. www.galapagosartspace.com

MUSIC, BLACK BROOKLYN RENAISSANCE: Percussionist Talu Green, gospel octet Singers with a Testimony from Brown Memorial Baptist Church, and spoken word artist Climbing Posters, to name just a few. Free. 9 pm. BAM Harvey (651 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, 718) 636-4100. www.bam.org

FILM, "THE FRONT PAGE": As part of the 13-film retrospective "The Susan Sarandon Picture Show," \$12 (members \$7). 9:15 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, 718) 636-4100. www.bam.org

FILM, "THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE": Free. 10 pm. BAM Harvey (651 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, 718) 636-4100. www.bam.org

MUSIC, SONG BOOK OF LOVE: Afternoon of literary love songs. Featuring Alyson Greenfield, Brook Pridemore, Cam Mac, Dan Castella and Rachel Devlin and more. Free. 4 pm. Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch (Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene, 718) 596-5410.

MUSIC, "BLACK BROOKLYN RENAISSANCE — THE NEW GENERATION": Free. 8 pm. BAM Cafe (30 Lafayette Ave. in Fort Greene, 718) 625-0080. www.brooklynartscenter.org

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INTERNS
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MON, FEB. 14
Community Board 2 Parks and Recreation Committee. Monthly meeting. 6 pm. Brooklyn Hospital (121 DeKalb Ave. at St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, 718) 596-5410.

TUES, FEB. 15
Community Board 2 Transportation and Public Safety Committee. Monthly meeting. 6 pm. St. Francis College (180 Remsen St. between Court and Clinton streets in Brooklyn Heights, 718) 596-5410.

WED, FEB. 16
Community Board 2 Land Use Committee. Monthly meeting. 6 pm. Polytechnic University (5 Metro Tech in Downtown, 718) 596-5410.

THURS, FEB. 17
Town Hall meeting. Hosted by Councilman Vincent Leriche. Representatives from city agencies answer questions. 7:30 pm. Moons Lodge (7711 18th Ave. between 77th and 78th streets in Bensonhurst, 718) 748-5200 X2.

To list an event in the Civic Calendar, e-mail Calendar@cnglocal.com

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Find lots more listings online at BrooklynPaper.com/Events

at Eastern Parkway in Grand Army Plaza in Park Slope, 718) 230-2100.

THEATER, "FROST/NIXON": Peter Morgan's revered play, based on the series of televised interviews between former President Richard Nixon and David Frost. \$15, \$13 (8 pm. Heights Players (26 Willow Pl. between Joralemon and State streets in Brooklyn Heights, 718) 237-2752. www.heightsplayers.org

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Member: **SNY** **NYP** **SRDS**



Mad world: Geoffrey Rush stars as the titular madman in "Diary of a Madman," an adaptation of Gogol's darkly comic short story making its US premiere at BAM starting Feb. 11.

Rush hour

Aussie star in BAM's play, 'The Diary of a Madman'

By Meredith Deliso
The Brooklyn Paper

Geoffrey Rush has a certain penchant for playing men slightly off their rockers—David Helfgott in "Shine," the Marquis de Sade in "Quills," the pirate Barbosa in "Pirates of the Caribbean."

And now this month, the Aussie actor goes really nuts in a stage adaptation of Gogol's darkly comic short story, "The Diary of a Madman," at the Brooklyn Academy of Music starting on Feb. 11.

For Rush, it's a return to the role of poor Poprishchin, a civil servant in 1830s St. Petersburg who is prone to

elaborate delusions as he yearns for a senior official's daughter, a juicy theatrical treat that he originated in his homeland in 1989.

"It's a tour-de-force performance by one of the finest contemporary stage and screen actors—and current Academy Award nominee [for "The King's Speech"]—making his BAM debut," said Executive Producer Joseph Melillo. "It's a thoroughly mesmerizing theater experience."

"The Diary of a Madman" at BAM: Harvey (651 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100), Feb. 11-March 12. Tickets \$20-\$95. For info, visit www.bam.org.

Interview to a kill

Big talk in Heights Players' 'Frost/Nixon'

The Butcher of Flatbush Ave. Extension



The Heights Players prides itself on its intimacy, and that couldn't be more evident in its current production of "Frost/Nixon."

When the play opened on Broadway five years ago, its staging employed dozens of TV screens to show close-ups of the actor's faces for audience members in the cheap seats. Not here. The Players' production relies on the performances and intimate setting to bring the audience in. And though both have their moments, the end result is mixed. Thanks to the strength of Peter Morgan's script, "Frost/Nixon" is a largely enjoyable, at times gripping delight, even for non-political junkies, though it's often bogged down by the heavy-handed delivery of that material and one key production flaw.

The play is a fictionalized account of the 1977 showdown between Richard Nixon, fresh off his pardon, and British journalist David Frost. After unique personal failures, both



THEATER

"Frost/Nixon" at the Heights Players (26 Willow Pl. between State and Jerome streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 237-2752), through Feb. 20. Friday-Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets \$15. For info, visit www.heightsplayers.org.

It's tricky: Jason Hewitt, as Nixon, offers the money shot in the Heights Players' production of "Frost/Nixon."

years to be major players again, and their interview holds the key, if only for one man. In this David-and-Goliath setup, mere "talk show host" Frost appears to be the clear underdog to the seasoned Nixon, who had battled interviewers before on such subjects as divergent as Vietnam, Watergate, and a dog named Checkers.

Director Steve Velardi clearly con-

sidered that dynamic in his effective staging—it's a boxing match without gloves.

In one corner, you have Nixon's camp—the ex-president's chief of staff, and smarmy agent. In the other, there's Frost, his producer, woman, and "crackpot" team of investigators. Whether they're at Nixon's California home or at the TV studio, they never cross sides.

Like the best Nixon performances,

the production suffers at times from over-acting and heavy-handedness, especially in the narration by one of the investigators, Jim Reston, played by Michael Nigro. And a particularly powerful moment from Hewitt, where Nixon drunkenly calls Frost on the night before their last interview, was the type of tour-de-force performance better suited for a larger space, and would have been more effective turned down a notch. The otherwise swift show was also interrupted by an intermission added simply to sell concessions, it seems.

The play's ending should be no spoiler—Frost emerged the victor, getting a confession from Nixon. As mentioned earlier, this staging foregoes any props to aid the story, instead relying on intimacy. Though as Reston's narration highlights the look of defeat on Nixon's face and the "reductive power of the close-up" during this climactic moment, I couldn't tell you how powerful that close-up was. With the audience seated on all four sides of the stage, I was unfortunate enough to be seated behind Nixon, deprived of that catharsis. Intimacy wasn't enough.

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9 DAYS...

Continued from page 8

WORKSHOP, KNITTING CLASS: \$25. 4-6 pm, Old Stone House (336 Third St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope) (718 768-3195). www.theoldstonehouse.com

FILM, "THE WITCHES OF EASTWICK": As part of the 13-film retrospective "The Susan Sarandon Picture Show." \$12 (members \$7). 6:50 pm, Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene) (718 636-4100). www.bam.org

READING, ALIZA DAVIS: Author of "The Words That Shaped Me." Free. 7:30 pm, Boulevard Books (7518 13th Ave. in Dyker Heights between 76th Street and Bay Park) (718 237-2899). www.brooklyncenteronline.org

CROSSING THE CULTURAL DIVIDE: 8 pm. See Friday, Feb. 11.

FILM, "THE HUNGER": As part of the 13-film retrospective "The Susan Sarandon Picture Show." \$12 (members \$7). 9:15 pm, Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene) (718 636-4100). www.bam.org

TALK, STORYTELLING: Selected persons from Nina Talbot's portraits share their experiences. Free. 2 pm, Brooklyn Historical Society (128 Pierrepont St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights) (718 222-4111). www.brooklynhistory.org

FILM, "TWILIGHT": As part of the 13-film retrospective "The Susan Sarandon Picture Show." \$12 (members \$7). 2 pm, Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene) (718 636-4100). www.bam.org

MUSIC, CHILDREN'S CONCERT: Kid rockers presents Jesse Main and the St. Marks Social and Palomar. Targeted at ages three to 13. Children must be accompanied by an adult. \$15 (\$12 in advance). 1 pm, Rock Shop (249 Fourth Ave. between Carroll and President streets in Park Slope) (718 230-5140). www.therockshop.com

THEATER, "FROST/NIXON": 2 pm. See Friday, Feb. 11.

THEATER, "THE DROWNY CHAPERONE": 3 pm. See Friday, Feb. 11.

MUSIC, SALOME ORCHESTRA: 3 pm. See Saturday, Feb. 12.

THEATER, "THE DIARY OF A MADMAN": 3 pm. See Friday, Feb. 11.

THEATER, "VIOLET" DINNER THEATER: Dining, live music and circus acts. \$35-\$95. 7 pm, House of Yes (342 Mulder St. between Morgan Avenue and Waterbury Street in East Williamsburg) (www.houseofyes.org)

SALES AND MARKETS

CARROLL GARDENS GREEN-MARKET: 8 am-6 pm (Carroll and Smith streets in Carroll Gardens) (718 788-7476). www.growcity.org

ARTISTS AND FLEAS: 11 am-6 pm. See Saturday, Feb. 12.

BROOKLYN FLEA: 10 am-5 pm. See Saturday, Feb. 12.

BROOKLYN INDIE MARKET: 11 am-4 pm. See Saturday, Feb. 12.

OTHER

READING, DIANA SCHENBRUN: Author of "Schoen-



Irish up: Colm Toibin reads from "The Empty Family" at BookCourt on Feb. 17.

How to Make 22 Macchia-

monsters That Go Bump in the Night." Free. 11 am, BookCourt (163 Court St. between Pacific and Dean streets in Cobble Hill) (718 857-4616). www.bookcourt.org

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DREAMS: Screening as part of BAMcinematek's "Grass and Asa" series. \$12 (members \$7). 6:50 and 9:15 pm, Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene) (718 636-4100). www.bam.org

THEATER, "TREASURE ISLAND": Robert Louis Stevenson's classic pirate tale gets adapted for the stage. \$20-\$45. 7:30 pm, Inroads Center (85 S. Oxford St. at Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene) (718 488-9233). www.inroads.org

THEATER, "THE DIARY OF A MADMAN": 7:30 pm. See Friday, Feb. 11.

WED, FEB. 16

WORKSHOP, SUGAR AND SODIUM: Learning to identify sugar and sodium content in processed foods. Free. 5 pm, Brooklyn Women's Services (9201 Fourth Ave. at 92nd Street in Bay Ridge) (718 748-1234). Register at www.brooklyn-womenservices.com

FILM, "FORKYS": Screening as part of BAMcinematek's "Grass and Asa" series. \$12 (members \$7). 6:50 and 9:15 pm, Brooklyn Academy of Music (30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene) (718 636-4100). www.bam.org

TALK, POPULAR SCIENCE EDITORS: Part of the "Get Smart" lecture series. \$5. 7 pm, Galapagos Art Space (16 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO) (718 222-8500). www.galapagosartspace.com

READING, JULIE ORRINGER AND DOLEN PERKINS VALDEZ: Authors of "Wench" and "The Invisible Bridge." Free. 7:30 pm, Word (126 Franklin St. between Milton Street and Greenpoint) (718 383-0096). www.wordbrooklyn.com

THEATER, "TREASURE ISLAND": 7:30 pm. See Tuesday, Feb. 15.

THEATER, "THE DIARY OF A MADMAN": 7:30 pm. See Friday, Feb. 11.

THURS, FEB. 17

BROOKLYN BOURG HALL GREENMARKET: 8 am-6 pm. See Saturday, Feb. 12.

READING, COLM TOIBIN: Author of "The Empty Family." Free. 7 pm, BookCourt (163 Court St. between Pacific and Dean streets in Cobble Hill) (718 857-3077). www.bookcourt.org

THEATER, "TREASURE ISLAND": 7:30 pm. See Tuesday, Feb. 15.

THEATER, "THE DIARY OF A MADMAN": 7:30 pm. See Friday, Feb. 11.

READING, THREE HUMORISTS: Monthly comedy night. Free. 7:30 pm, Greenlight Bookstore (666 Fulton St. between South Elliott Place and South Portland Avenue in Fort Greene) (718 266-0200). abookstore-brooklyn.blogspot.com

THEATER, "THE DROWNY CHAPERONE": 8 pm. See Friday, Feb. 11.

THEATER, "DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE": One-woman show by Liza Jessie Peterson. Free. 9 pm, BAMcafe (30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene) (718 636-4100). www.bam.org

OTHER

TALK, "THE LEGACY OF CHARLES EBERTS": John Zinn discusses Eberts' achievements and relationship with the ball club and the borough. Free. 3 pm, Brooklyn Historical Society (128 Pierrepont St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights) (718 222-4111). www.brooklynhistory.org

FRI, FEB. 18

THEATER, "TREASURE ISLAND": 7:30 pm. See Tuesday, Feb. 15.

THEATER, "THE DIARY OF A MADMAN": 7:30 pm. See Friday, Feb. 11.

READING, TIPHANIE YANIQUE: Author of "How to Escape From A Leper Colony." Free. 7:30 pm, Greenlight Bookstore (666 Fulton St. between South Elliott Place and South Portland Avenue in Fort Greene) (718 266-0200). abookstore-brooklyn.blogspot.com

THEATER, "THE DROWNY CHAPERONE": 8 pm. See Friday, Feb. 11.

THEATER, "FROST/NIXON": 8 pm. See Friday, Feb. 11.

THEATER, "IN THE PONY PALACE/FOOTBALL": 8 pm. See Friday, Feb. 11.

BEST MUSIC SOCIETY: Featuring works by Beethoven, Schubert and Brahms. \$30. 8 pm, First Unitarian Church (Pierrepont Street between Clinton Street and Monroe Place in Brooklyn Heights) (718 858-0718). www.brooklynchamber-musicsociety.org

SAT, FEB. 19

PERFORMANCE

THEATER, "THE DROWNY CHAPERONE": 2 pm. See Friday, Feb. 11.

THEATER, "THE DIARY OF A MADMAN": 2 and 7:30 pm. See Friday, Feb. 11.

THEATER, "THE LEGEND OF BUSTER NEAL": 3 and 8 pm. See Friday, Feb. 18.

THEATER, "TREASURE ISLAND": 3 and 8 pm. See Tuesday, Feb. 15.

MUSIC, CROOKED FINGERS: \$15. 8 pm, The Bell House (149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus) (718 643-6510). www.thebellhouse.com

THEATER, "FROST/NIXON": 8 pm. See Friday, Feb. 11.

THEATER, "IN THE PONY PALACE/FOOTBALL": 8 pm. See Friday, Feb. 11.

THEATER, "DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE": One-woman show by Liza Jessie Peterson. Free. 9 pm, BAMcafe (30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene) (718 636-4100). www.bam.org

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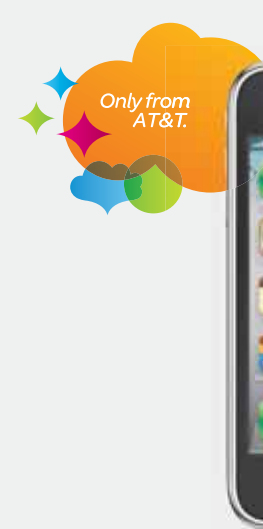
TALK, "THE LEGACY OF CHARLES EBERTS": John Zinn discusses Eberts' achievements and relationship with the ball club and the borough. Free. 3 pm, Brooklyn Historical Society (128 Pierrepont St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights) (718 222-4111). www.brooklynhistory.org

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The 'It' choir

Brooklyn Youth Chorus presents its newest work, 'Tell the Way'

By Meredith Deliso
The Brooklyn Paper

The Brooklyn Youth Chorus is, how you say, having a moment.

In just the past few months, the Grammy Award-winning group performed in Mark Morris's "The Hard Nut" at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, held its own at the Ecstatic Music Festival, joined in the Leonard Bernstein tribute at Lincoln Center, and belted it out in a live accompaniment to "The Lord of the Rings" at Radio City Music Hall. (And let us not forget past collaborations with the likes of Lou Reed, Elton John and Grizzly Bear.)

This week may trump them all, though, as the group presents its biggest undertaking yet—the collaborative, commissioned work "Tell the Way."



Sing out: The Brooklyn Youth Chorus will fill St. Ann's Warehouse with song this weekend.

which makes its world premiere at St. Ann's Warehouse from Feb. 10 to 12.

At the heart of the multi-movement show, which is loosely based on medieval and colonial English travel narratives, are three meditative collaborations between composer Nico Muhly and guitarist Bryce Dessner (of The National fame), sitarist Bishi and banjo/fiddle player Sam Amidon. An ensemble of strings, percussion, piano and flute will also accompany the 45-person choir in this propulsive, genre-defying piece.

"With 'Tell the Way,' the Brooklyn Youth Chorus seeks to challenge the common perception of the 'angelic voice' children's chorus," said Dianne Berken, artistic director of the chorus. "Muhly and St. Ann's are the perfect partners not only to help break the mold of a traditional children's chorus, but also to help us evolve programmatically."

As if those recent credentials haven't done that already, "Tell the Way" at St. Ann's Warehouse (38 Water St. between Dock and Main streets in DUMBO, (718) 254-8779), Feb. 10 at 7 pm and Feb. 11-12 at 8 pm. Tickets \$35-50. For info, visit www.stannwarehouse.org.

Trees get teeny-tiny

Meet the bonsais, which get better with age

By Vera Zuckerman
for The Brooklyn Paper

To the list of things that get better with age—wine, cheese, your always-gorgeous wife—add something else: bonsai trees.

And on Friday, those hand-crafted wonders will be celebrated with a Japanese-themed party at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden.

Some of the specimens in the Garden's spring exhibition, "Graceful Perseverance," have celebrated a centennial; one time-defying bonsai tree, the White Pine, is more than 300 years old.

"Bonsai is about storytelling," explained Anita Jacobs, director of public programs at Brooklyn Botanic Garden. "To design a tree takes many years and usually they have been under the care of many generations. Each tree is crafted so that its shape is unique to its original environment."

The Japanese-style reception also includes a Brooklyn bonsai tour led by Julian Velasco, who curates one of the world's greatest collections of the miniature trees, a sake tasting, a meal of 13 mini-plates of vegetarian Japanese food, a performance by a Japanese folk



Think small: Celebrate the bonsai, and all things Japanese, really, as the Brooklyn Botanic Garden hosts a night of food and dance on Feb. 11 to mark its new bonsai exhibition, "Graceful Perseverance."

dance ensemble, and a DJ cranking out 1960s-style Japanese pop.

"It will be a warm, cozy evening where people can eat dinner under the stars in our giant glass greenhouse," said Jacobs. "Guests will be transported to a magical place but also let their hair down and have some fun."

"Small Scale: An Evening of Japanese Tapas, Sake, and the Art of Bonsai" at Brooklyn Botanic Garden Palm House (900 Washington Avenue near Eastern Parkway in Crown Heights, (718) 623-7200), Feb. 11, 6-11 pm. Tickets \$75. The exhibit, "Graceful Perseverance" runs Feb. 2-May 1.

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The Brooklyn Paper PARENT

KIDS • SCHOOL • STYLE • TEENS • CAMPS • MUSIC

They're game

By Laura Gottesdiener
for The Brooklyn Paper

Babysitters, beware — a new restaurant in Park Slope is about to cut into your business.

PSbklyn, a new kid-friendly joint that's like a toned-down and upscale version of Chuck E. Cheese — will open this week on Union Street in the defunct Bussaco space between Sixth and Seventh avenues.

Like Bussaco, PSbklyn hopes to be a high-end American bar and restaurant — with one major difference: the basement has been converted into a rec room featuring two Skee ball machines, an air hockey table and arcade games.

Mom, prepare to sip your wine in peace.

"It gives you a shot at finishing a meal," said Tom Graziano, the co-owner of PSbklyn, who once owned a restaurant in Long Island and has two boys, ages 4 and 2.

The restaurant-arcade hybrid, a less-programmed version of the popular Moxie Spot in Brooklyn Heights,

PSbklyn co-owner Steve Sohmer shows off the children's rec room downstairs at his new Union Street restaurant and bar.

It would seem to be a perfect fit for affluent, kid-centered Park Slope. Chef Adam Goldgel's menu will comprise haute versions of bar food, including chicken pot pie, Cuban sandwiches, wood-fired pizzas.

There's also a full bar, so mom and dad can knock back martinis while their offspring get their fix of race car driving and "House of the Dead II," a shooting game. Younger children can practice their free throws on a mini basketball hoop or ride a tiny train. Each ride costs 50 cents, but co-owner Steven Sohmer, a former Wall Street guy, is betting that for many parents, enjoying a full meal in peace is priceless.

PSbklyn (833 Union St. between Sixth and Seventh avenues in Park Slope, (718) 398-5474) had a soft opening on Feb. 9.

Dealing with teen cleavage

My 13-year-old daughter is in the midst of bar- and bat-mitzvah season, a Jewish coming-of-age ritual that generally includes a religious service and a party with DJ and dancing. I have recently seen her and her crew at some of these celebrations, dressed as they would for a fashion show, wearing every type of makeup all at once and dresses that belong in Teen Vogue.

The music, always played at ear-splitting levels, is all about sex: having it, wanting it, not getting enough of it. I get into a good, self-righteous, parent rage about the inappropriateness of the messages to my daughter for whom the word "sexy" is an adjective like "cool" or "great" — it has a meaning that's positive but vague.

On the other hand, I rail against the Puritanical parents who kept an Elmo video off the air because the celebrity guest, Katy Perry, a pop music star, showed too much cleavage.

In my mixed reaction to the sexual messages surrounding my girls, I suddenly understand (in that clueless dad kind of way) the female dilemma of sex and success, attire and attraction and how my teenage daughters are just starting to sort this all out.

The Dad
By Scott Sager

My 15-year-old and her friends like to shop at the American Apparel stores in Brooklyn Heights or Cobble Hill where the 20-ish sales people all wear not quite enough clothes. My daughter often makes dubious clothing choices, tops too tight or cut too low, and she's been late to school occasionally because I wouldn't let her out of the house without an argument.

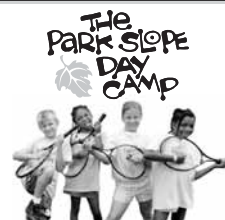
The entertainment world barrages its young fans with infinite signals about bodies and sex (look at Brooklyn native Anne Hathaway's journey from "The Princess Diaries" to sex scenes and nude magazine covers with Jake Gyllenhaal), but also provides examples of women who have been empowered and successful in their use of their own sexuality — now it's Perry, but before her was Lady Gaga, after Madonna, chef Ann-Margret, etc. Women have long built their careers in the same way men did: hard work, talent and some sex appeal. There is, after all, always an "it" girl, no matter what era we are talking about.

As teens, my daughters are just starting to learn the power of their bodies, the attention their physiques can bring them, good and bad. My ranting and raging at a song on the radio or an image on screen isn't going to change the obstacle course they will go through. They will get plenty of mixed messages, and their solutions

will be visible in clothing choices.

It's awards season and on the red carpets of the Grammys and Oscars there will be much decolletage, very high heels and leggy women showing off their talents. My daughters will be watching, and digesting everything there is to see — and the unsent things, too.

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skills taught. Dr. Lisa
718-767-0233

**To Advertise
Call
718-260-2588**

NEW YORK POST Wednesday, February 23rd

CAREER FAIR 2011

In-Person Career Fair
Wednesday, February 23rd
11AM - 3PM
Affinia Hotel
371 Seventh Avenue at 30th Street
Register and upload your resume at
www.catalystcareergroup.com

For more information on how to include your company
in our Career Fair contact
David Rosenthal at 212-930-8520

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Sales Representative Needed
We are looking for a highly motivated,
full time sales rep to sell advertising
in our monthly Family magazines.
Base salary, benefits, plus commission.
Must be well organized, computer
literate, have a car and strong com-
munication skills. Knowledge of "the
world of kids" is a plus, as is previous
sales experience, but not necessary.

Email Resume to:
snoble@englocal.com
And Call Sharon 718 260-2505

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE
All employment advertised herein is subject
to section 296 of the human rights law, which
makes it illegal to advertise any preference,
limitation or discrimination on the basis of
sex, age, sexual orientation, or arrest conviction
record, or intention to make any such preference,
limitation, or discrimination. Title 29, U.S. Code,
Chap 630, excludes the Federal Gov't from the
age discrimination provisions. This newspaper
will not knowingly accept any advertising for
employment which is in violation of the law. Our
readers are informed that employment offerings
advertised in this newspaper are available on an
equal opportunity basis.

HELP WANTED

Dental Assistant
Training Program
P/T Even Begins early
March, in Bklyn, Queens,
LI & Westchester.
Placement assist. Est. 26
Yrs. Lic. by NYSED.
1-888-595-3262 ext. 23

RECEPTIONIST WANTED
for Brooklyn Real Estate
office. Computer
skills required. Different
shifts available.
Call 718-338-8833

JOB INFORMATION

Gotbaum Warns
Consumers About
Classified Ads

Toll numbers may be a direct line to trouble.
Classified ads are intended
to help people by facilitating
communication and
advertising available
services; however, some of
the toll numbers actually
harm the people who rely on
their hard-earned dollars.
Most newspapers print a
disclaimer in their classified
ad section to warn readers
about numbers that are a
direct line to trouble. Any
number starting with 800,
860, 888 or 877 charges a
fee beyond a local call. In
some instances, ads initially
advertise calls to a local
number, but then direct
callers to a second number
starting with one of the
paid exchanges. "Consumers
must also question the
legitimacy of vague
classifications because they
too could be a scam. Before
responding to an ad,
consumers should verify
the source of all information
& always be wary
about sending money or
signing a contract with an
unknown party."

**Office of the
Public Advocate**

To Place Your Ad
Call 718-260-2555
or 718-260-2549

WHY PAY MORE?
CALL NOW!

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